# SEPAL Newsletter—Issue no. 6 April 2020

Raising the productivity on the SEPAL project and staying safe during COVID-19 pandemic



In the middle of the new coronavirus pandemic, many employers attempt to limit staff exposure. **Working from home** represents an effective way of preventing the spread of COVID-19 by minimizing the risk of the employees coming into contact with someone carrying the disease. As the coronavirus spreads, numerous organizations are suggesting their employers to **stay safe at home** and to manage to do their **work online** by using several tools that are available on a simple search on the internet.

Considering the fact that we are going through a difficult time, we continue to believe that nothing is impossible and we will make efforts to coordinate our team to be as efficient as before or even more efficient. In order to be productive at home, we identified several requirements that are necessary to work remotely: a computer or a laptop, a phone, a good internet connection, an organized workspace, a working schedule and last but not least **motivation, creativity and discipline**.

As for the **SEPAL** team, we use the online resources that we have developed, such as **SEPAL HUB** dedicated to the WISE experts of this project, where we continue to register and to update the profiles of the young people aged between 24 and 29 and **MY SEPAL** dedicated to the NEETs, where they can see their profile and their documents regarding their situation on the platform and also where we are planning to implement a "chat" function in order to achieve an easier communication and to offer them counseling sessions when needed.

In addition, we frequently use several online instruments that are available for free on the internet in order to assure a qualitative communication between our colleagues from different countries (Romania, Spain, Greece, Lithuania, Poland). For example, our online meetings and conferences are mostly organized on the ZOOM Platform and all our partners are familiarized with it. We consider it a formal manner to communicate, being the main reason why we had started to access this Platform. We have recently organized the Steering Committee Meeting on ZOOM, being our 15th online management meeting and we will continue to organize our next meetings as planned. It was a great opportunity to discuss about the impact of COVID-19 on our activity, implicitly on the employment of the NEETs. Each partner came with technical solutions in order to continue to work and to collaborate efficiently and to maintain contact, especially with the NEETs. To keep in touch with the young people from our platform is imperative during this period. We need to assure them that our activities will be carried on in the online environment in the next period and we will be offering them the support they need. We have to advise them that the best thing that they can do during this period is to stay at home and for example, we can help them to write a proper European CV with the help of the Europass model, to recommend them to read certain articles or books and to suggest them to attend some online free courses can be accomplished through video calls using Skype, Google Hangouts or Facebook Messenger, depending on the NEET's choice or possibility. In addition, we find accessible a few other online tools such as WhatsApp and Gmail but we use these in a more or less informal way such as short (individual or group) messages between our office colleagues or project partners.

There were mentioned above some **online free courses**. Within **SEPAL** project we intend to continue developing our own online training platform (SEPAL e-learning), using Moodle Class, one of the most popular learning systems around the world. More than this, we aim to offer to our project's target group a training for the **development of digital skills** (ICT). It is needed to be mentioned that, according to DESI (The Digital Economy and Society Index) from 2019, Romania, Greece and Poland (three out of five countries from the SEPAL project) were at the bottom of the ranking of EU28, more precisely, on the 25th, 26th, and 27th places. Nowadays, it can be seen that **an increased number of jobs require digital skills**. More than this, when applying for a job, a proper CV, an e-mail and the use of the social media applications are also appreciated by most of the employers. These are basic aspects that are taken into consideration, but many employers also ask the interviewees to have knowledge regarding the Office Package (Word, PowerPoint, Excel, etc.). Therefore, **SEPAL** project intends to give to its NEETs an opportunity to get hands-on training in the digital field. A Certificate attesting their competencies will enrich our young people's profile and their CVs, but also will increase the productivity of certain organizations where they will be employed.

As a conclusion, we live in a rapidly changing world and **we need to adapt to the age of technology** that is advancing more and more with each passing day. The technology can bring advantages and disadvantages, too. During this challenging period, we consider it an advantage because it **facilitates the communication** between the office colleagues, the projects' partners from all over Europe, but also between our WISE experts and NEETs, which increases the productivity of our activities within which we make efforts to support it.



SEPAL Project 3rd Dissemination Event in Athens/Greece



We experience a policy of "social distancing" in order to safeguard our health in the current situation and to be able to be experience "nearness in space" eventually. We are unfortunate enough to experience the coronavirus outbreak that has been labelled a pandemic by the World Health Organization, but at the same time we are quite "lucky" to be healthy and because technology at this point offers us the ability to create increasing value with a shrinking amount of resources.

KoiSPE "Diadromes" has been quite fortunate to have already carried out the 3rd Dissemination Event on February 26th 2020, which was marginally before the outbreak of this pandemic. The event took place in a facility of the Society of Social Psychiatry and Mental Health P. Sakellaropoulos, in Kallithea, Athens.

We were pleased to welcome **representatives of Local Stakeholders Committees (LSCs)**, but on top of that, we were delighted to be also joined by the **beneficiaries – the young people (NEETs)** already participating in **SEPAL** program's various stages. The meeting revolved around the progress and in the light of experience acquired so far by SEPAL's implementation process. We had the opportunity to explore issues, concerns that have arisen and to analyse the involved parties' viewpoints. We also discussed and organised the next steps towards youth employment inclusion. Here in Greece, we remain in constant contact with our colleagues in KoiSPE "Diadromes", with our partners, our LSCs but above and beyond with our beneficiaries and participants.

Our **contact with stakeholders**, partners and LSCs remains constant and unaffected by the current situation, as we make the most of what technology has to offer. However, it feels like the rhythm and life of yesterday has turned into a bunch of questions of today. Will I ever get my life back? When will the curve of this contagious virus be flattened? Will people we know and love be sick and dying, and if yes, for how long? Will the restaurants and bookstores and cafes all still exist, or will some of them be gone (along with all of the livelihoods they supported)? How will the families who have lost someone have an opportunity to grieve among so much loss? Will we feel closer to the rest of the world, who has gone through this with us and are so clearly interconnected with us, or more afraid of others, fearing they might be the silent carriers of something deadly?

But the truth is, most of us who have been around for a while have lived through an event (or events) that have knocked us sideways and ended our life as we knew it. For some of us, someone close to us died. For others, our partner left us. We suddenly lost a job we had committed our lives to. Our house destroyed in a natural disaster. We were diagnosed with a serious illness. Something unexpected and devastating happened, and we found ourselves suddenly without a compass – living a life we had no experience living, trying to get our bearings in an unfamiliar world, shaping a new identity and orientation to our life. So while this particular circumstance is novel, we are not totally without the internal resources to survive it. In some fundamental ways, we have been here before and we have found our way. This knowledge can give us the confidence we can do it this time too.

Under normal circumstances, social prescribing is a key initiative to address loneliness, and other social factors affecting health. Like all areas of life, it has been and will continue to be disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Social prescribing refers to the use of 'community assets' (e.g. local organisations, charities, support services) to address 'non-medical' challenges (e.g. isolation, unemployment, bereavement) that can affect how people feel physically and psychologically. It is central to **KoiSPE "Diadromes"** long-term plan and is proposed as a way to ensure that beneficiaries receive **assistance and support** with their social, employment and training needs. Yet, this does rely on the use of services or local activities, many of which will be closed for the near future.

The current COVID-19 pandemic has already altered their role. Community-based activities and services often proposed as part of social prescribing, have all been put on hold. The career counselors (WISE) can still play key roles during the current pandemic. New guidance suggests that WISE experts should hold video or phone appointments with beneficiaries and promote existing initiatives that help people feel connected to others, on the grounds of **the importance of maintaining the community connected** during this time. Practically the **3rd dissemination event marks the end of the first half of SEPAL Project**. Our ultimate goal (has been and remains) is to achieve a

Practically the **3rd dissemination event marks the end of the first half of SEPAL Project**. Our ultimate goal (has been and remains) is to achieve a quality result that both meets the expectations of our partners and those of the people that participate in it. **SEPAL** project works towards ensuring that it will make a difference in participants' lives, by enhancing their skills and thus facilitate their employment opportunities. We ensure that we remain compliant with state directives, regulations and policies. **We stay at home but we keep in touch!** 

Social Firms Europe CEFEC online Conference



All the **SEPAL** partners had planned to participate in the **SFE CEFEC Conference from Dortmund**, on 18 and 19 March 2020, in order to discuss *Inclusion by Employment*. Unfortunately, the event had to be cancelled due to COVID-19, so we **had to be creative again**. On **March 19th 2020, Bucovina Institute** 

organized an online Conference with the Social Firms Europe CEFEC members and the SEPAL partners.

Asta Jaseliuniene from ZISPB Lithuania prepared a presentation on *Win-Win potentials for the SEPAL project*. Unfortunately, she couldn't participate at our Online CEFEC Conference and she was represented by our communication manager, Alina Bîrsan from Bucovina Institute/Romania. She presented the partners involved in the Supporting Employment Platform through Apprenticeship Learning – SEPAL project, financed through the EEA and Norway Grants Fund for Youth Employment, including the main activities developed during the period of the implementation in order to improve the employment situation of the NEETs. COLLABORATION is the key word of our path to success!

You can still **check the online SFE CEFEC Conference** here.

Wishing you all the strength!

### Local Stakeholders from Spain support our NEETs



**Spanish Stakeholders** are raising in numbers and in the support of our NEETs. Here we introduce to you some of them:

Silvia Ayala as focal point of <u>Social Services, Catalonian Government</u>
Participating in all the events, talking about the opportunities that the municipalities' offers for youth, promoting the project activities to her job mates and to other areas of the government, helps us to improve our perspective of learning and apprenticeship process.

Pla de Barris, (Neighborhood Plan) Municipality of Barcelona – David Sarroca;

He helped us during the first step of recruitment and making dissemination about the project among young single mothers from the project he is working on.

### <u>Som Esqueix Association</u> – Juanma Gonzales;

Their association is dedicated to grow vegetables in a responsible and sustainable way with vulnerable persons but older than our target, but he gave an opportunity to teach them a job in case they are interested in the agriculture filed.

#### <u>Associació de Joves Gitanos de Gracia</u> – Ricardo Valenti Gutierrez;

He was helping us a lot with the first NEETs recruitment because he works directly with youngster. He cooperates very close to the WISE experts on the way to avoid that youngsters give up on their job research. He is involved in the project since the beginning in a really active way. He works hard for the SEPAL project.

### <u>Gats. Association</u> – Oscar Rando

He works with cooperatives not with young people, so for him was really difficult to help us on the recruitment process. But he works close to us in order to find companies who can bring a job opportunity for the NEETs.

### Service of Occupation of Badalona – Lurdes Soler

This institution is for the job seekers as is the church for the Christians or the mosques for the Muslims. This means that this office is the place where the youth who are in a unemployment situation goes firstly. In one hand to register their self as job seekers and in the other hand to see possibilities of occupation or subsidies. In this context as part of our stakeholder they are collaborating addressing youngsters to be helped by our project, to empower their skills and to find together alternatives of employment.

### <u>MigRESS Association</u> – Luz Helena Ramirez;

This association is one of the most proactive stakeholders we have. They want to promote the participation of people migrated in the Social and Solidarity Economy initiatives, to make visible their Economy initiatives and to contribute to an intercultural social fabric. Recently they organized for us a training for trainers on foreigner issues. A big part of our NEETs are migrants and in a vulnerable situation. Addressing the foreigners' issues to a competent collaborator we accompany the employment situation in a transversal manner. How it functions this cooperation and how this initiative regulates illegal situation of the migrants, was another training we held with them. Even we make an exchange visit with a part of our NEETs, in CanBATLLO, visiting and learning how these small cooperatives were developed. Do our NEETs see their self as part of a cooperative?

### Pla de Recollida de Poble Sec – Teia Goñi Gomez

Pla de Recollida de Poble Sec is a program of the Poble Sec Entity Coordinator aimed mainly at migrants. They work on three transversal axes: counseling and guidance, training and participation, with the aim of encouraging the inclusion of migrants within the host society. As our stakeholder they are offering direct counselling on how to proceed with helping the residents and labour permission of our migrant NEETs.

### Kali Zor Association – Alfonso Amaya

As a Roma association stakeholder, they are participating proactively in the recruitment process since the beginning of the project. As we know, most part of the Roma community has informal jobs, do not have any formal contract and are many seen in the unorganized sector where work and payments are done on the basis of verbal agreements without any obligations on either side. These are jobs mainly taking place with the daily laborers whose wages are paid on a daily basis. In this context, with this stakeholder we are organizing activities to raise the importance of a formal job for a sustainable life. They maintain up the motivation of our NEETs during the apprenticeship process.

### Federation of Colombian Associations in Catalonia – Carmen Rosa Bermudez

Our mutual collaboration consist in providing services on the training of soft skills of the migrants from Columbia. They also helped people to be registered in the SEPAL online platform.

As you can notice **the role of the stakeholders is essential in the implementation and effectiveness of the project.** #alldifferent #allequal #allforsepalproject #allfortheyouthempowrment #allfortheNEETS.





Cooperation with LSCs – good practice from Poland



Work in an international project is a permanent cooperation of various types of institutions, which are linked by a common mission in the area of project intervention. The **SEPAL** project could not have been successfully implemented without the support of our local partners (LSC).

**Municipal Family Assistance Center** is an independent social welfare organizational institution. The area of activity is the city of Szczecin. The main goal of the organization is to enable individuals and families to overcome difficult life situations which they are unable to overcome by using their own powers, resources and possibilities. The institution cooperates with young people in the area of assistance in maintaining professional activity. (www.mopr.szczecin.pl)

Labour Market Leader is employment agency authorized by the Marshal of the West Pomerania Voivodeship for employment agency, professional and personal counseling. The company is also registered in the Register of Training Services, carrying out training, EU projects, issuing certificates of the Ministry of National Education (<u>www.kursyzadarmo.pl</u>).

**Foundation Tulipan** was established in January 2013 in Szczecin - where it is currently based and runs the TULIPAN Post-Penitentiary Aid Centre. There are support groups operating in the foundation, and a number of initiatives are carried out to support our charges. The Foundation carries out its activities in the form of freedom and penitentiary (in the area of detention centers and prisons). The Tulipan Foundation has already implemented over 50 original programs and published many publications on penitentiary and post-penitentiary assistance, professional, preventive and motivational. It has created numerous spots and films promoting help for convicts - touching on many social problems. (www.fundacjatulipan.pl)

**Training and Advise Centre Pola Rechinbach-Piotrowicz** is an institution that deals with vocational guidance for young people, where it prepares for a change of job. It provides knowledge necessary for conscious career planning. It helps in preparing for a recruitment interview, writing or editing a CV. The mission of Centre of Support Social Economy in Szczecin is to increase the importance of social economy in the West Pomeranian region for the professional and social integration of people at risk of marginalization, growth of social capital and development of entrepreneurship. (<u>www.aktywneowes.pl</u>)

We know that together we can support and create a better future for supporting employment for vulnerable groups!

#### SEPAL NEETs share their experiences



In a world that seems very different than the one we are leaving in now, our **SEPAL** WISE experts have done a lot of work with the NEETs registered in the project and the testimonials and experiences they have shared and which you can read in this article, are proof of that. Enjoy the stories and, of course, we are not stopping here!

### Bucovina Institute / Romania

Her name is **Alina** and she is 26 years old. After finishing the Bachelor's Degree studies in the field of Social Work, she has decided to continue her studies by enrolling in two Masters programs: one in the field of School Counseling and Emotional Intelligence and the second one in European Management and Administration. After graduation, she was motivated to find a job, but she found rather difficult the process of identifying the right workplace for her, she did not know where to start, she did not have enough courage, and the most important, she needed support and encouragement. After three months, one of her former colleagues, employee at Bucovina Institute informed her about the existence of a project that supports young people in this direction. Alina received all the necessary information, she was registered on the SEPAL platform and then she was scheduled for a counseling meeting.

Everyone at Bucovina Institute observed her educational and professional background (she had no work experience, but she was involved in volunteering activities with children and adults with disabilities), her potential and her strong desire to find a job and she was called for an interview. She decided to remain since the day of the interview, starting with a month of paid apprenticeship, period in which she learned, she communicated and she showed her interest by getting involved in all the activities carried out within the organization. Therefore, we considered that she was suitable for the position of vocational counselor within SEPAL project, we hired her and since then she brings her contribution and supports other NEETs. Alina finds herself in one of Mark Twain's quotes: "Find a job you enjoy doing, and you will never have to work a day in your life". She considers her workplace a second home and not because she spends many hours at the office, but because she finally feels that all the effort she made during her study years and the knowledge she acquired were not in vain and now she can help other young people and make herself noticed. You can see Alina share her experience in this <u>TV Spot</u> we developed for the SEPAL project!

### Pere Closa Foundation / Spain

Further, we would like to introduce you one of our NEETs from Spain, as a positive model and proof that when our stakeholders come together and join their collaboration the things become easier.

My name is **Marinela** and I am 28 years old. I come from Albania to Spain through an internship program. When this program has finished, I found myself in a difficult legal and employment situation. Legal situation because once I finished the internship the residence permission expired. Having a TIE (Identification number for Foreigners) expired, it is impossible to reside and work in Spain, so actually I have the status as illegal migrant. Through social networks I got information about SEPAL dissemination sessions and I participated. Being informed about SEPAL activities and services I registered my data in the online SEPAL Platform. The next day I received a call from the experts of Pere Closa Private Foundation and we had a short conversation on what my needs consist of. I attended a direct interview with them and I told my situation. After one week they contacted me telling that a meeting with an immigration counselor was planned and they will accompany me in his office. I remember that the name was (Pla d' Acollida del Poble Sec). Now my further steps how to renew my residence permit are clearer. Regarding my competencies in Languages and Computer Sciences Pere Closa put me in contact with the Associacio de Joves Gitanos de Gracia, to be involved in their project on recuperation of Roma language. Actually, I am teaching English and Rromanes (Roma Language) as a volunteer in two secondary schools with a very high rate of Roma students. Once I would have the residence permission, we will keep in touch with companies which are seeking employees with Computer science profile. In this way we can stay and work in Barcelona. Meanwhile, the SEPAL team is evaluating which training I will be able to do once I solved my legal status.

### ZISPB organization / Lithuania

SEPAL participant Milda from Šiauliai, Lithuania talks about her experience in SEPAL project:

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I've lived in Ireland since I was a teenager, but I returned to live in Lithuania a year ago. When I returned, I completed additional eyelash extension courses, started to work in the beauty field, as this was my main job abroad, which I really enjoyed, but I always wanted to try somewhere else. I was very interested in the SEPAL project as I was looking for a job for a while, so it only pushed me to take what I was planning, but I didn't dare to take the first step. I had been thinking of management during my work in the beauty field. There were thoughts that this could become my job. I thought that life is not standing still - everything can be done. I found out about the SEPAL project at that time and decided that I did not have to wait, I needed to use all the support provided by the project. The meeting with the SEPAL expert was very pleasant, we immediately found a common language. I received useful information and help. I think this project helps people to integrate into the labor market. I would recommend participating in it as it is a great opportunity to establish yourself and gain new knowledge.

# SEPAL RECORD! APPRENTICESHIP IN TWO DAYS!

For a young man with a car mechanics experience in black market who had been looking for a job for half a year, we found the right company in two days. In his small town, the guy had already tried all the possible options, but without success. The **SEPAL** job mediator entered into a contact with the head of the car service in Šiauliai and he offered to take part in a job interview the next day. One day after, the young man was invited to start. The guy was a little hesitant about whether it was worth going to another city, but the problem quickly resolved. Travel to work is funded by the SEPAL project.

## KoiSPE Diadromes / Greece

S.E. is a NEET from Greece who was referred to KoiSPE "Diadromes" by a refugee organization in September of 2019 and was informed of the benefits of SEPAL project. As an individual who has dealt with life challenges in the past, S.E. was determined to complete training so she could obtain employment, earning enough money to become financially stable, obtain independence, and establish a permanent residency in Greece. Throughout her training, S.E. remains in constant contact with her WISE Case Manager and reports to KoiSPE "Diadromes" premises every two weeks to provide updates on her progress. Apart from participating in upskilling through training, S.E. is also receiving assistance and support with obtaining suitable employment in her field of training. Once employed, she will be able to successfully obtain permanent housing and provide for herself. S.E. is committed, extremely proud of herself and thankful for the opportunity provided by the SEPAL project.

Through **SEPAL** Project a young Greek male, who is a cancer patient, entered an educational course that will lead to a certification of Microsoft Office and Adobe Photoshop knowledge. That certification will give him the opportunity to apply for a full-time working position in the Greek Public Sector. Another young Greek male of Romanian heritage, that has autism spectrum disorder, managed to start working at a Social Cooperative as a cleaning worker. It was his first ever legal employment contract. A Greek female NEET, who had studied psychology in the past but had never worked as a psychologist and had only worked on the black market as a babysitter, managed to start working at an NGO that offers Mental Health Services as a Psychologist. It was her first ever legal employment contract.

Through SEPAL we have had the opportunity and pleasure to support a woman in her late twenties with a history of mental health difficulties to make some steps towards building her work experience. This woman has been placed to work part time at a social cooperative that has been created by 5 jewelry designers. This woman has been greatly enjoying her work at the shop and workshop of the social cooperative and would like to develop it. Although during her time of placement she had a period of relapse, and was admitted to hospital, she has maintained her interest and vision around work. We have worked to support both the woman and the social cooperative during the whole process and especially during and following the mental health relapse. The social cooperative members have valued our input and have shown great sensitivity and support for their employee. As employers, they find the woman's work useful and are enjoying her help and input. Although this is an early stage in the placement, we think that some significant steps are being made both for the woman finding new skills and confidence in the world of employment. Furthermore, the members of the social cooperative are developing their understanding of different ways of working with a variety of people and benefiting from their employer's abilities.

### Collegium Balticum / Poland

Our partner from Poland has received testimonials from three NEETs which have benefited from the **SEPAL** Project:

### Damian, 26 years old

Participation in the project and conversations with experts opened my eyes that, first of all, it is worth to register at the labor office, which I haven't done before...I guess you need to see it or listen to the advice and experience of others. This made me feel better, for example, because I have access to insurance. Besides, thanks to conversations and consultations with people in the project, I realized that it is better to have a job that is less paid, but one in which I have all the insurance premiums paid. And experts sharing their work experience with me made me realize that at the very beginning you don't have to be a master in everything and many things can be learned through daily practice. I never thought that with the skills I have I could work in the kitchen, and I found such a job and I like it very much, because not only do I see that the kitchen is a five-star restaurant, but also ordinary everyday meals that I prepare and which taste good to customers. Besides, I'm between people, I have good relations with co-workers and I'm glad that I opened my eyes and ears in time and drew good conclusions for myself. It's nice that there are people who approach you kindly, without moralising, from whom you want to answer the phone and just talk. I wholeheartedly recommend participation in the project to all those who are looking for their way on the job market.

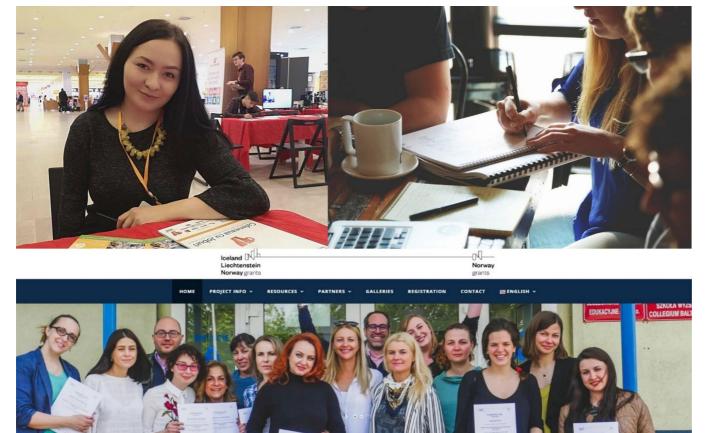
### Kornelia, 28 years old

Projects like SEPAL are a huge opportunity for young people who cannot find employment. After my maternity leave I had a big problem with finding a job because I didn't pass my matura exam. I graduated vocational school in the gastronomy field and SEPAL experts helped me to set up my own career path, assess my competences and refer me to the appropriate institutions. I am in the program and I am very happy about it!

#### Ania, 28 years old

I graduated vocational school in the field of computer science, a 2-year course for prosthodontics, an electrician's course organised by the Labour Office and I look forward to completing the course for secretaries. The labour market for young people from smaller towns is very difficult. What I like most about the SEPAL project is that I have constant contact with my mentor. We have created a plan together because I don't really know what I would like to do in the future, maybe in a while I will start studying, who knows!

We hope you enjoyed our stories and that you will keep in contact with us through our <u>Facebook page</u> and <u>website</u>. Maybe the present crisis is well beyond the experience of most of us, we had to comply with the "social distancing" state measures, but we have to be inventive and creative and adaptive to the new order of things, so that we can keep our organisations "alive" and active. Technology is on our side and is extremely helpful at this point in time, providing us the tools to preserve the "bridges of communication".



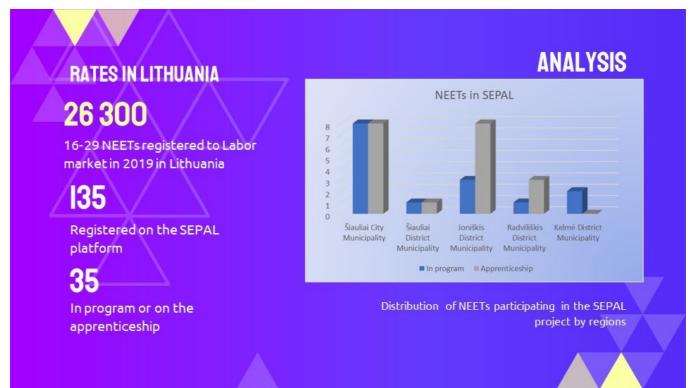
SEPAL JOB PLATFORM

MY SEPAL ENTER MY SEPAL

SEPAL HUE

ENTER SEPAL HUB

# Potential in the Regions of Lithuania



From 2019 October, SEPAL experts in Lithuania have broaden their recruitment scope.

Working outside the City of Siauliai, we have visited surrounding smaller towns and it was highly successful. Smaller towns in Northern Lithuania might be described as lacking suitable services and high unemployment rates. Youth in the regions are considered to be unmotivated, lacking social skills, rigid, affected by addictions and disabilities. Experience shows that it's the opposite! **NEETs in regions usually lack support more than employment**. They are starting families earlier, become the main providers of the family. Lack of financial competences and easy access to credits result in unbearable burdens of debts for young people. Dreaming of bigger salaries usually drives them to emigration where they find themselves disappointed or deceived. Not to speak about their low self-esteem, incapability to represent themselves, lack of social support.

To sum up, all those **challenges NEETs are facing** in their financial and social life in regions might be overcame by suitable professional support. There are some "jewels" in regions! As our statistics shows (see the Photo), of 20 apprentices in our program, more than half of them come from remote areas (60%). Thanks to our **LSC member in Joniškis municipality**, we established strong relationship with Joniškis Labor Office, Joniškis Youth Centre, Joniškis Centre for Social Support and others. Because of that, 8 NEETs from Joniškis are being provided by **supported employment services** and they have started the apprenticeship program. This success is a result of reciprocal communication and cooperation!



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