

Training for inmates

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

PRACTICAL MEASURE/INITIATIVE

 POLAND

Timeline



ID number 28482

Background

Inmates are excluded from participating in activities for upgrading skills and using them in actual jobs. They cannot develop new skills, and at the same time, many of them already have a low level of qualifications and education – for example, almost half of all inmates have only completed primary or lower secondary education, which makes returning as a properly functioning adult in society very difficult. Providing education and enabling the acquisition of new skills supports inmates' re-integration into society. It also reduces the risk of former inmates becoming socially excluded.

Objectives

The project aims to increase the occupational and social activity of inmates and to increase their employability upon leaving prison. New skills and qualifications are intended to make it easier for inmates to obtain a new job and to help lower the risk of social exclusion after leaving prison.

Description

From 2016 to 2020, the Central Management of the Prison Service (supervised by the Ministry of Justice) has been conducting a training project to prepare inmates' return to work after release from prison. The budget of this ESF co-funded project was approximately EUR 31 million (PLN 131 million).

Vocational training courses in different occupations along with labour-market-relevant soft skills training were organised. They were addressed to inmates who voluntarily apply to take part (except for those who will receive a retirement or disability pension after leaving prison) and meet additional specific criteria. Support is given first to inmates who have no education or who have had a break in performing their former profession.

During the training courses, inmates learn different occupations in the areas of construction, care, gastronomy, services and other sectors corresponding to local labour market needs. Courses last from two to six months.

During the five years of the project, in which 130 prisons and detention wards took part, it

was planned that over 46 000 prisoners would be trained. It was expected that over 56% of them would take up employment even during imprisonment. A special additional offer was prepared for women. The project complemented the government programme Work for prisoners.

2016 Implementation
2017 Implementation
2018 Implementation
2019 Implementation Project implementation continues.
2020 Implementation Project implementation continued and training courses addressed to inmates were conducted as planned.
2021 Completed The project, implemented from 2016 to 2020, has been completed.

Bodies responsible

- Ministry of Justice

Target group

Learners

Learners from other groups at risk of exclusion (minorities, people with fewer opportunities due to geographical location or social-economic disadvantaged position)

Education professionals

Teachers
Trainers

Thematic categories

Supporting lifelong learning culture and increasing participation

Providing for individuals' re- and upskilling needs

Ensuring equal opportunities and inclusiveness in education and training

Subsystem

CVET

Further reading

[Training project to prepare inmates' return to work after release from prison - project description](#)

[EU grants map](#)

“ ... ” **Cite as**

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