

## Formation of local cross-professional teams

IO6 – Chain responsibility

SLOVENIA

Level: local/regional/national

### **Background:**

The support system in Slovenia for youth who are not in education, employment or training (NEET) is spread - as the NEETs are a heterogeneous group with diverse needs - among numerous organisations, targeting different target groups of young. This has its benefits in diversity of approaches but can also make it a challenge if the services for NEETs are fragmented and not supplemented. This can result in a weaker effect on the reintegration process of the young. There is a need for coordinated support and resources offered to NEET by a range of professionals from education, social, health, and labour-market and other sectors. Lack of cooperation among various stakeholders is an issue that can be addressed with coordinated cooperation at the local or regional level, supported by national policy.

### **Rationale:**

The efficiency and efficacy of the system and its ability to serve the target population depend on the cooperation among sectors, which many local communities currently lack. In fact, most cooperation and support among professionals is mostly due to their own individual efforts and initiatives, and not because of a coordinated system wide approach to solving the NEET crisis. To ensure quality support, professionals must not only identify various resources that are offered by other organisations within and across various sectors, but also actively cooperate with each other (so called chain responsibility) in supporting youth in their individual pathways to vocational maturity.

### **Recommendation:**

To set-up local cross-professional teams with appointed coordinators of these local teams. The teams should include members of organisations that serve NEETs directly or indirectly - basic and upper-secondary school, local offices of employment service, local social work centres, health centres, law enforcement, local youth and career centres, local businesses and all other organisations dealing with NEETs (e.g. organisation leading Project Learning for Young Adults (PUM-O)). To ensure sustainability of such cross-professional teams, management of aforementioned institutions should demonstrate commitment to the idea of cooperation and resource-knowledge sharing by taking responsibility and establishing conditions for professional and administrative cooperation and by supporting their employees in taking part in monthly meetings of cross-professional teams. The aim is that the cross-professional teams develop the so-called chain of responsibility among key experts in order to efficiently and collectively support the NEET through their individual pathways.