

**PR: 18.01.2020: New Erasmus+ Project **Entre4all** educates people with disabilities to become social entrepreneurs**

**ENTRE4ALL is a new Erasmus+ project with the aim of providing training in entrepreneurship for people with disabilities. The 5 partner organisations **Center Ponovne Uporabe** (Slovenia), **RIC Novo Mesto** (Slovenia), **Emphasys Centre** (Cyprus), **equalizent** (Austria), **Kentro AMEA Agios Lazaros** (Cyprus) and **DIMITRA Education & Consulting** (Greece) are experts in the fields of education and social entrepreneurship.**

According to the WHO World Report on Disability from 2011 approximately 15% of the European population has a disability. **People with disabilities** face many barriers and prejudice on the first labour market. Statistically, people with disabilities are more likely to be unemployed, earn lower wages and are more likely to experience employer discrimination. In contrast, they are as likely as people without a disability to be self-employed. Amongst the reasons for the increasing number of entrepreneurs with disabilities are increased independence and autonomy. Self-employment provides a sense of **self-empowerment** because entrepreneurs are more likely to be integrated, both socially and economically. Unfortunately, people with disabilities who want to become entrepreneurs face barriers such as lack of knowledge or skills, a lack of appropriate and accessible business support services, consumer discrimination and so on. **Entre4all** aims to dismantle some of these barriers.

Why social entrepreneurship? Social entrepreneurship addresses pressing social challenges and social needs in innovative ways. It focuses on social impact and reaches out to vulnerable groups.

**Entre4all** aims to enable people with disabilities to acquire competences in the field of **digital and entrepreneurial skills** to empower them to become social entrepreneurs. **Entre4all** will develop accessible resources such as an online platform with learning modules and discussion forum, a database with learning resources and a map of social entrepreneurship initiatives through Europe. Additionally **Entre4all** community centres will be opened as hubs for people with disabilities to meet, exchange ideas and find support. **Entre3all** will offer a training course for people interested in acquiring skills in digital competences and social entrepreneurship.

“As Emphasys Centre we aim to support people with disabilities in order to utilise their abilities, talents and interests in a purposeful way with an impact for themselves, as well as for their families or the community they live in. Acquiring new competences, such as entrepreneurial and digital can enhance their creativity while opening up new routes for entering the labour market, both as employees or as entrepreneurs in a social enterprise thus supporting their local community. Our aim is to empower people with disabilities to have access and participation in all areas, both as active citizens, and as member of the digitalised economy we live in.”, says Athos Charalambides Director of Emphasys Centre.



For more information, visit the **Entre4all** website at <https://www.Entre4all.eu/> or keep up with all the latest news by following **Entre4all** on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/Entre4all/>), Instagram (<https://www.instagram.com/Entre4all/>) or YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFcWlXhCtF-63fsS5mlclrQ>).

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