**VISIBILITY PROJECT BRIEF**

**JOBS, OPPORTUNITIES, BUSINESSES, SUPPORT – JOBS**

**Project Sector:** Social policy

**Town/Region:** Republic of Serbia

**Grant value:** 143,711.70 EUR

**Budget line:** IPA 2014

**Start year:** 2018

**End year:** 2020

**Contracting authority:** Ministry of Finance - Department for Contracting and Financing of EU Funded

Programmes (CFCU)

**General Information**

**Jobs, Opportunities, Businesses, Support – JOBS** is project funded by the EU and implemented by [Center for Social Policy](http://csp.org.rs/en/) (CSP) in partnership with [Women’s Center Užice](https://sites.google.com/site/zenskicentarue/) and the municipalities of [Dimitrovrad](http://www.dimitrovgrad.rs/eng) and [Priboj](http://www.priboj.rs/). The project JOBS is funded under the Grant Scheme within the project [European Union Support to Active Youth Inclusion](http://www.ukljucivanjemladih.rs) *-* Lot 2: Active Inclusion, which is funded by the EU and managed by the Ministry of Finance - Department for Contracting and Financing of EU Funded Programmes (CFCU).

**End beneficiaries** of the project JOBS are unemployed women from vulnerable groups and relevant stakeholders (public and private institutions) contributing to the effective employment, employability and active inclusion of women in Užice, Dimitrovgrad, Priboj and Čajetina.

**The** **overall objective** of the project JOBS is to contribute to the enhanced employability of disadvantaged groups of women, predominantly social welfare beneficiaries in Užice, Dimitrovgrad, Priboj and Čajetina, through the implementation of Employment and Social Reform Programme (ESRP) measures for women.

**The specific objectives are**

* to identify and test effective support measures for unemployed women from vulnerable groups and improve their access to the labour market,
* to enable better use of the existing public measures of support in the area of employment and social protection, and the measures for promotion of intersectoral cooperation at local level to implement integrated services in order to respond to the needs of women from disadvantaged groups,
* to help the selected local self-governments and members of civil society to asses, test and agree on the active inclusion models and packages which are to be implemented through the local cross-sector partnerships
* to raise awareness of general public and representatives of institutions concerning the importance of active inclusion of vulnerable groups of women,
* to contribute to the overall local and national discussion on the optimal active inclusion mix in the Republic of Serbia.

**Project Activities and Methodology**

The abovementioned objectives will be achieved through

1. Researching the existing inclusion mechanisms at local level for unemployed women experiencing life difficulties, and preparing individual plans for providing them with support;
2. Direct work with the selected group of women through implementation of personalised active inclusion measures, such as a) psycho-social empowerment, b) vocational and business skills trainings, c) advisory support in job-seeking, d) support for starting a business or setting up and running an enterprise, and e) mentorship support;
3. Creating a proposal of measures for development of inter-institutional models and integrated social protection services for active inclusion of women experiencing life difficulties;
4. Organising trainings for professionals from local institutions, representatives of the National Employment Service, Centres for Social Work, bodies for gender equality, for the members of civil society and business community, regarding the implementation of inter-institutional models of integrative social protection services;
5. Enhancing inter-sectoral cooperation and improving the provision of integrated services facilitating access to the good quality jobs, by conducting peer reviews with all stakeholders at the local level. At least 80 professionals at the local level will increase their skills and knowledge on how to provide support to hard-to-employ women;
6. Conducting local campaigns to promote measures of active inclusion and integrative approach which enables better access to the labour market and to the good quality services.

The Project methodologybuilds on the [main conclusions](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2015/569971/IPOL_STU(2015)569971_EN.pdf) on the implementation of the [European Commission Recommendation on Active Inclusion](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX:32008H0867). The EC has named several challenges which has to be taken into consideration when developing active inclusion measures – which will be especially used during the implementation of this Project: 1) coordination challenges at the local level; 2) the scattering of competencies across policy levels; 3) restricted access to services due to lack of funding; and 4) insufficient administrative capacity to coordinate the three strands within or across departments. The Recommendations of the EC highlights that, for active inclusion policies to succeed, the various partners concerned, including social partners and non-governmental organization, must play their part and cooperate effectively, agreeing priorities and pooling resources to achieve a common goal.

**Project Outcomes and Impact**

The impact of the project is expected at local level concerning creation of a tailor-made framework and approach for empowering unemployed women experiencing multiple vulnerabilities.

**Positive outcomes of the project**

* Increased competencies for active job seeking and entrepreneurship of at least 120 hard-to-employ women from vulnerable groups;
* Increased professional, technical and administrative capacities of 80 to 100 professionals from local institutions, including centers for social work, national employment service, local self-governments, business sector and civil society organizations, for dealing with the issue of un/employment of vulnerable women;
* Increased competences of the local professionals in conducting prioritization and developing evidence-based measures, and improved code of conduct of the local professionals when delivering services to end beneficiaries;
* Strengthened effective partnerships between local institutions, and improved communication and cooperation between relevant shareholders when planning and delivering services to the end beneficiaries - unemployed women from vulnerable groups;

**Positive impact of the project**

* Increased competences of the partner institutions and organization in project management, implementation, reporting and visibility rules which contributes to more effective use of funds;
* Integrated services implemented in order to respond to the needs of women from disadvantaged groups;
* Raised awareness of general public and representatives of institutions concerning the importance of active inclusion of vulnerable groups of women.