

DESK RESEARCH 2

*Access to training for developing the independent living skills of young people with intellectual disabilities
as a factor for entrepreneurship attitudes*

Organizations:

National Association of Resource Teachers, Bulgaria

Backslash, Spain

Igdir İl Milli Eğitim Mudurlugu, Turkey

Regionalne Centrum Wolontariatu, Poland

Kulturno Izobrazevalno Drustvo PiNa, Slovenia

Collecting Data Methodology: Research (Internet sources, interviews)



Project partners in Valencia, 2022

1. Which institutions are responsible for the organization of vocational and entrepreneurial training at national level?

Ministries of Education, Ministries of Labour and Social Policy, National VET Agency (NAVET) in Bulgaria.

Universities, employment agencies, NGOs, municipalities

2. Which institutions are responsible for the organization of vocational and entrepreneurial training for young people with intellectual disabilities at national level?

VET Secondary Schools and VET Centres, NGOs, Regional Centres for the Support of Inclusive Education in Bulgaria,

Ministry of Labor or of Education, the municipalities

Small and Medium Enterprises Development Organization in Turkey

Training courses are organized especially for people with disabilities, conducted by institutions that work only with such people on a daily basis and have specially qualified staff for this purpose.

Often, training for people with disabilities is organized by the same institutions that conduct such training for people without disabilities. Then special groups are created connecting people with a similar degree of disability. Trainings for people with disabilities are financed very often by the European Union funds.

There are programs for Special Education Vocational Schools in Turkey. These are:

- Information Technologies Program.
- Office Management Program.
- Handicrafts Program.
- Food Technology Field Program.
- Clothing Technology Field Program.
- Beauty Hair and Care Technology Field Program.
- Construction Technology Field Program.
- Chemical Technology Field Program.
- Accommodation Services Area Program.
- Printing Technology Field Program.
- Metal Technology Field Program.
- Furniture and Interior Design Field Program.
- Motor Vehicles Technology Field Program.
- Ceramics and Glass Technology Field Program.
- Agricultural Area Programme.
- Textile Technology Field Program.
- Plumbing Technology Field Program.
- Food and Beverage Services Area Program.
- Mind Work and Professional Ethics Program.

3. What kind of vocational training opportunities for young people with intellectual disabilities exist on national level. Courses, programs, learning styles (name, objectives, duration, handled topics, kind of end evaluation, etc.). Profiles of the trainers (who delivers the training) and learners (who attend the courses, admission requirements, etc.)?

In terms of directing disabled people to a profession, regardless of their level of education, they need to undergo vocational training in order to be able to settle in a job suitable for their characteristics in the transition from school life to business life. The trainings can be designed and organized by different institutions depending on the degree of disability. Many institutions and organizations carry out vocational training activities for the disabled. Vocational training is provided for individuals with disabilities, both in public schools and private education institutions, within the body of municipalities and NGOs, and by making use of the grant programs of different public institutions and organizations.

In Bulgaria the European Social Fund governmental program - Creating conditions for employment of unemployed people with disabilities, registered in the directorates "Labor Office" finances different types of trainings. The trainings are organized in accordance with the specific characteristics of the unemployed and with the identified needs of occupations of employers who can create jobs for the persons subject to the program. The program grants:

- *motivational training for acquiring skills for active behavior on the labor market and employment;*
- *training for acquisition and improvement of key competencies;*
- *training for acquiring professional qualification in accordance with the capabilities of the persons, subject of the program and with the needs of the employers.*

Vocational courses: cook, confectioner, bartender, warehouse worker

Computer courses, e.g. office worker, graphic designer, accounting, decorator

Within the Ministry of National Education, Vocational Training Centers for the Mentally Handicapped, Job Training Centers and Adult Mentally Handicapped Job Training Centers organize vocational training programs for individuals with disabilities in Turkey.

Apprenticeship training is provided in order to prevent youth unemployment through the General Directorate of Lifelong Learning, which operates under the Ministry of National Education. The Vocational Education Law No. 3308, which entered into force in 1986, became a turning point in the field of apprenticeship training and brought many innovations with it. With this law, arrangements have also been made for people with disabilities. In Article 39 of the Law, "The Ministry organizes special vocational courses for people in need of special education to prepare them for duties that are valid in business life. The interests, needs and abilities of these people are taken into account in the organization and implementation of the courses. As long as they attend the courses, they benefit from the rights given to apprentices and students by this Law." Within the framework of this law, non-formal vocational training courses are organized for individuals in need of special education by public education centers under the General Directorate of Lifelong Learning.

Many associations serving the disabled open vocational training courses for the disabled as a result of the support they receive from İŞKUR (Turkish Employment Agency). Vocational training courses are organized for disabled in the public education centers and cultural centers of some metropolitan and district municipalities. The same service is provided in municipalities that have rehabilitation centers.

There are a lot of actions and training opportunities in Spain whose target group are youth with intellectual disabilities. Most of the training opportunities are promoted by private NGOs that are financially supported by the public administration. Some examples are Juan XXII Foundation, Discapnet or Oxiria Foundation. There are, mainly, two types of training opportunities for youth with disabilities in the field of labour:

-Short term trainings: Trainings offered to improve some skills or teach on specific topic. Those kind of trainings have a duration of maximum 6 months, and minimum one month, approximately. Some

examples of topics are: Training for food handler card, trainings for reading, trainings for social participation, trainings for production of art materials...

-Long term trainings: Trainings offered to learn more things about a specific occupation. Those trainings have a formal and official title and are, basically, adaptations of popular degrees with different amount of materials and methodology, that makes inclusive the learning process. Some of those degrees are: Degree in cooking, degree in administration, degree in sales promotion assistant, degree in sales clerck. All of the trainings are of different durations, topics and ways of evaluation. It depends on the type of training, but all of them have in common the participative and active methodology, that includes youth as the focus of education. Also, almost all of them have some practical experience in shops or businesses. The trainings are taught by experienced trainers in the field, with some knowledge about special education and special needs. The minimum requirements to all the trainings are to be a citizenship of Spain and have the recognition of the disability level by the public administration.

4. List 10 independent life skills.

Communication skills

Coping with emotions

Critical Thinking

Money and Budgeting skills

Personal Healthcare and Hygiene

Safety Skills

Domestic Skills

Clothing Skills

Shopping Skills

Time management skills

5. List 5 out of the 10 above that can be trained with young people with intellectual disabilities.

Communication skills

Domestic Skills

Personal Healthcare and Hygiene

Money and Budgeting skills

Coping with emotions

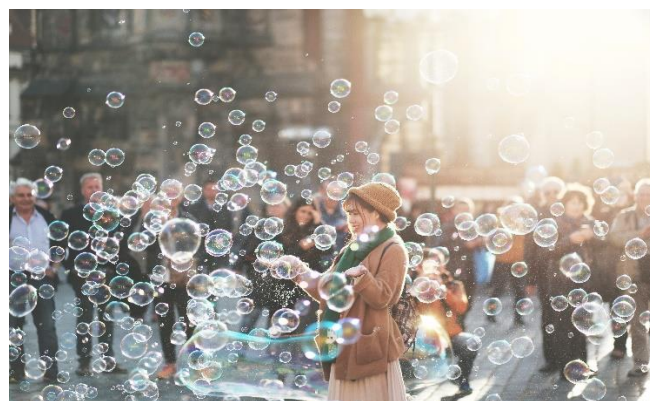


photo by: Alex Alvarez

6. Possible job opportunities in the fields of social entrepreneurship for young people with intellectual disabilities on national level.

Persons with intellectual disabilities may perform work related to:

- *sorting, packing, assembling all elements, labeling, cleaning rubber and plastic castings,*
- *simple office works, e.g. photocopying, binding, enveloping, recycling documents, simple printing, cleaning, gardening, minor maintenance works,*

- *carpentry, gastronomy, food processing and catering, breeding animals, gardening, farm work, cleaning.*

These job opportunities are usually performed in workplaces of professional activity and sheltered workshops.

Examples:

Supported employment programme at the Worlds Day Care Centre, Maria's World Foundation

The daily inclusion of the trainees in work activities – as an essential component of team preparation for work activities – is the development of comprehensible rules and easy-to-use materials for each activity. One of the projects implemented by Maria's World Foundation is the Sheltered Café at the Day Care Centre, which has been functioning since July 2014 and offers a real service –The café proudly offers a simple menu to visitors with the food cooked by our trainees under the guidance of the kitchen team supervisor. Here visitors can order a fragrant espresso, cappuccino or home-made lemonade, served by those who are interested in waiter profession. If waitressing and serving food and drinks have been indicated as a desired occupation, they are offered an opportunity to continue to build on their professional skills.

JAMBA - whose mission is to create conditions for the accumulation of additional skills and competencies in various professional fields through training and internship. The organization assists them in their inclusion in the labor market and even in their career growth. In September 2021, the first of its kind JAMBA - Hub of Opportunities opened its doors.

***Social Future Foundation** is a licensed employment intermediary by the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy. Initially, they created an online platform with job ads, but gradually upgraded, starting to consult both parties - job seekers and employers. Thus, Jamba became a specialized HR agency for people with disabilities. Subsequently, they started another type of activity, which is currently the heart of the organization - they create a training module for people with different abilities. Thus, completely free of charge, they help them acquire new skills or upgrade their qualifications in order to be more competitive in the labor market, which is currently even tighter. "We help people develop not only craft skills like cooking and bartending, but also working with different software programs, programming."*

***Stanimira Chocolate House** is specialized in the production of high quality handmade chocolates, created with love and care, containing fine fresh ingredients to ensure the wonderful taste of each piece. They train and work with people with intellectual disabilities, trainees at the Maria's World Foundation.*

***Bulgarian Association for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities** is a national network of parent organizations that work for the dignified and independent life of persons with intellectual disabilities and their families. BALIZ advocates the implementation of national and local policies that respect the rights of persons with intellectual disabilities and help build the necessary supportive environment and full integration into society.*

Other platforms have been created that bring together interested people with disabilities in a single database, indicating their professional competences and abilities. It also represents employers who are looking for such personnel or who wish to support disadvantaged people. The platforms also contain various informational materials, trainings, a forum and other elements to help both job applicants and employers. People from vulnerable groups are provided with psychological support, motivation and professional competences.

