

What CURSOR is about...

Youth unemployment in the EU in March 2018 stood at 15.6% or 3.6 million young people. In the partner countries participating in this project the rate varies; 22.8% in Cyprus; 16.8% in Romania; 13.8% in Poland; 12.5% in Ireland (Eurostat). Addressing youth unemployment remains one of the main priorities of the EU to ensure that young Europeans can fulfil their potential and play a full and active part in today's dynamic economy.

Career planning skills are increasingly regarded as essential skills for work and for life. In today's ever-changing labour market, it is conceivable that the average worker will change career paths on up to 7 occasions during their working life. The partners involved in the CURSOR project believe that it is time for a completely new approach to support the development of career planning skills among young people both unemployed and employed.

CURSOR will provide a completely new career planning framework where young Europeans are supported to acquire and develop the necessary skills to plan their own career progression pathway and to retain those skills for use throughout their active working life. CURSOR proposes the modernization of career planning to reflect the reality of the European employment marketplace where a change in one's career pathway can be a frequent occurrence.

To ensure that the career planning materials developed are widely used and accessible project partners will harness the full potential of digital technologies for developing, producing and presenting the career planning framework. The proposed tools and resources will be freely available to all key service providers working in the youth development and career planning fields to support the active participation of young people in the labour market and the reduction of the high rates of youth unemployment that currently pertain throughout Europe.

What CURSOR does...

In partner countries the current career support model is based on the concept of career guidance as a service. The provision of career guidance is generally confined to formal educational or job seeking services. However, given the dynamic nature of the modern economy it is impractical to provide the current level of service on an ongoing basis throughout the active working life of an individual. The CURSOR project proposes to address the issue of career planning as a subject to be taught rather than as a service to be provided and will focus on building the career planning skills of young people to ensure that they are self-sufficient where career planning is concerned and able to plot and manage their own career progression pathway and update it as required throughout their working life.

The CURSOR project will develop a suite of 24 career planning resources that address 4 specific themes, namely

Self	Strengths
Horizons	Networks

This suite of training materials will comprise 12 introductory and 12 advanced resources; 3 resources per theme, per level. Each learning resource will be produced in an appropriate media-rich format to support learning in a variety of different learning environments. An assessment tool for each resource will be incorporated into its design. Each tool will be available in English, Greek, Polish and Romanian.

To support youth professionals to use these new career planning resources CURSOR partners will also develop a bespoke in-service training programme. The emphasis of this in-service training will be to ensure that youth professionals and other potential intermediaries are confident working in online and blended learning environments to support the career planning needs of young people. All career planning resources and in-service training resources will be available and accessible on a dedicated CURSOR e-learning platform.

Who CURSOR is....

The CURSOR consortium comprises 4 partners representing Cyprus, Ireland, Poland and Romania

- ▶ [Cyprus Organisation for Sustainable Education and Active Learning – SEAL CYPRUS - Cyprus](#)
- ▶ [Future In Perspective Limited – FIP – Ireland](#)
- ▶ [Tomorrow sp. z.o.o. – Poland](#)
- ▶ [Universitatea Din Pitesti – UPIT – Romania](#)



What has already happened...

During a 2-day kick-off meeting in May 2018 the consortium met for the first time in Pitesti, Romania to get to know each other, to talk about the project objectives and activities and to start planning the first working tasks for all partners. Besides fruitful discussions and exchanges of knowledge and experience project partners were given a guided tour of the Universitatea Din Pitesti and met with students and staff members. The meeting coincided with the annual "Salon of Innovation, Creativity, Research of Students and Students from the Arges County- SICCESA 2018" and partners were able to view some of the exciting innovations and models developed by students in the different faculties of the university.



What CURSOR will achieve...

Over the 24-month project lifecycle, project partners will work together to produce 4 outputs, namely:

1. An In-service Training Needs Analysis Report
2. An In-service Training Programme Handbook
3. A Suite of Career Planning Resources
4. An E-learning Portal

Coming next...

- ▶ Each partner will establish a national stakeholder forum to support all project development actions and ensure that the needs of young people and the youth professionals who support them are adequately met.
- ▶ Each partner will conduct a local training needs analysis using a two-pronged research approach comprising desk-based research to identify possible best practice models and survey questionnaires to elicit the inputs of youth professionals.



How to get connected with CURSOR

If you would like to join the stakeholder forum in your local area, please contact the partner in your home country.

If you are a youth professional and you are interested in supporting the development of the CURSOR training materials, please contact the partner in your home country.

Follow us on Facebook or send a message and the local partner will be in touch

<https://www.facebook.com/CursorCareerEU/>

If you would like more information about the project log on to our project website <http://cursorcareer.eu/>



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