

Information campaign on safe seasonal employment and employee rights in universities, secondary and vocational schools

Poland

GENERAL INFORMATION	
Contact person	Wojciech Woś EURES Adviser (wwos@wup-rzeszow.pl)
Member State	Poland
Name of the organisation and address	Regional Labour Office in Rzeszów ul. Naruszewicza 11, 35-055 Rzeszów, Poland https://wuprzeszow.praca.gov.pl/
Type of body/organisation	Ministry of Labour
GOOD PRACTICE - GENERAL INFORMATION	
Title of the good practice in the original language (if relevant)	Information campaign on safe seasonal employment and employee rights in universities, secondary and vocational schools
Geographical focus	Regional
Duration	2018 - ongoing
Summary of the good practice	In order to increase young adults' awareness of the opportunities and challenges of seasonal employment in other EU Member States, the EURES adviser from the Regional Labour Office in Rzeszów (Poland) holds free counselling classes for university students, as well as for adult students from secondary and vocational schools. During these classes the adviser informs the students about workers' rights and explain them how the EURES Network can facilitate the process of finding a fair and safe employment abroad.
OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES	
Background/context	► In Poland many young people and recent graduates

	<p>consider the possibility of working abroad for some time, mostly as seasonal workers. Up to 80-90% of the students think about working abroad in the future, and estimations suggest that around 40-60% of the young population put this plan into practice; the numbers are slightly higher at vocational schools than at universities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ While working abroad can be considered as an opportunity of development and young professionals are usually highly motivated, they are also a particularly vulnerable group when it comes to poor working conditions and exploitation. Many of these students are going abroad for work for their first time and have little knowledge on workers' rights and obligations, the working conditions abroad and the available services to find a suitable and fair work. ▶ The information campaign, on safe seasonal employment and workers' rights in universities, secondary and vocational schools, aims to close this knowledge gap and to prepare youth.
<p>Objectives</p>	<p>General Objective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ To increase the awareness on workers' rights, working conditions, obligations and targeted counselling services among Polish youth. <p>Specific Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ To provide customised classes on the opportunities, challenges and practicalities of working outside of Poland for (adult) students in universities, high and vocational schools. ▶ To assist students in discovering the available counselling services for cross-border workers in the EU (e.g. EURES). ▶ To provide information on living and working conditions for seasonal workers in EU Member States.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ To prevent young professionals from unfair and illegal hiring processes and working conditions by informing them about their rights and applicable laws.
Main activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ The EURES Adviser establishes contact with local schools and universities to organise sessions with the students. ▶ During the classes the students receive general information about seasonal work in other EU countries, workers' rights and the EURES portal as a tool to find employment abroad and can ask questions to the EURES Adviser. ▶ The EURES Adviser shares a presentation with the students, provides flyers with general information about EURES, as well as additional promotional material, such as pens, power banks, pen drives and charging cables. ▶ After the classes the students can ask further questions or contact the EURES Adviser at a later stage via e-mail or telephone. The students are also invited to visit the Regional Labour Office for further advice.
Relevance	<p>This practice aims at providing information on the rights and obligations of seasonal workers as well as EU-wide available counselling services, like EURES.</p>
Funding/organisational resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ No additional funding for this activity is needed as the EURES Adviser provides the classes as part of the daily work and the classes can take place in the schools and universities free of charge. ▶ The information shared is already available in Regional Labour Office and the EURES website and the necessary flyers and promotional material were provided by the Ministry of Family and Social Policy.

PARTICIPATION	
Stakeholders involved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Regional Labour Office in Rzeszów (<i>Wojewódzki Urząd Pracy w Rzeszowie</i>) - EURES Adviser ▶ Local schools and universities
Target groups	Young people that potentially considers working abroad in another EU Member State, for instance as seasonal workers.
Final beneficiaries	Around 500-700 adult students annually from schools and universities in the Podkarpackie Region
ACHIEVEMENTS & RECOGNITION	
Results and outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Young professionals that participated in the classes are better informed about the opportunities and challenges related to cross-border seasonal work. They also know where to find legit and fair employment offers and how to seek advice. Around 10% of the students seek additional advice after the classes. ▶ Since the start of the project in 2018, more than 2 000 students were informed, providing around one to three classes per week throughout the academic year. During the 'Rights for All Seasons' Campaign between June and October 2021, 12 classes were provided. ▶ A long-term cooperation between schools and the Regional Labour Office in Rzeszów has been established. ▶ The students show great interest in the topic and contact the EURES Adviser again towards the end of the academic year, also the schools highly value the classes and some actively seek the cooperation.ⁱ
Recognition – national or regional level	In 2018 the project was presented during a meeting of the Public Employment Services (PES) in Warszawa.
Recognition – on EU or	The practice has not been recognised at EU or

international level	international level.
Cost effectiveness	The practice is considered cost-effective since no additional costs and the labour office could cover the classes without additional financial or human resources.
Transferability	The practice is fully transferable to another thematic or geographical context, considering that the topic is relevant for young people and a partnership with schools and universities is possible in different context.
Sustainability	The project has no particular focus on sustainability.
Innovativeness	Approaching adult students proactively in their familiar environment (schools/universities) was a key success factor and innovative approach that made low-threshold information sharing possible.
Digitalisation	The project has no particular focus on digitalisation.

ⁱ Wojciech Woś (Regional Labour Office in Rzeszów)