



CONCLUSIONS :

THE FIRST NATIONAL FORUM ON YOUTH EMPLOYMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT IN KYRGYZSTAN: "THE DEVELOPMENT OF PROFESSIONAL AND INTELLECTUAL CAREER OF YOUTH IN MODERN CONDITIONS"

On September 25, 2015, the *First National Forum on Youth Employment and Entrepreneurship Development in Kyrgyzstan: "The development of professional and intellectual career of youth in modern conditions"* was organized in the framework of the TEMPUS UNIWORK project, co-financed by the European Commission (contract #544126-TEMPUS-1-2013-1-ES-TEMPUS-JPHES). The National Forum, hosted by the Bishkek Academy of Finance and Economics, considered the current problem of professional and intellectual careers of young people in Kyrgyzstan.

The forum was attended by representatives of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Kyrgyz Republic, the Ministry of Labour, migration and youth of the republic, the University of Graz – Austria (on-line participation via Skype), Talas State and Osh Technological Universities, career centers of universities in Bishkek, the business environment, business community and media representatives.

The forum analyzed the situation of youth employment and development of entrepreneurship in the country, required competence from young professionals in the labor market in reaching young people career opportunities and success in business, the role of career centers, youth labor exchanges in the employment of university graduates, as well as questions of the level of training students in their chosen specialty. The participants considered experience of individual universities for the successful solution of graduate employment, implementation of the national strategy to increase youth employment.

Expert presentations, panels and workshops addressed, among others, the questions of:

- The role of the state in the employment of young people with higher education
- Analysis of the current employment situation of young graduates and the development of a business
- The role of organizations and institutions in dealing with the situation of youth employment in the country
- Working environment, profiles and competencies necessary for the competitiveness of graduates
- Opportunities of UNIWORK project for the development of the professional career of young people
- Entrepreneurship support and education: good practices from European universities
- Public funding of progressive initiatives and participation in the development of youth entrepreneurship and careers



- Ways to increase success of youth employment and entrepreneurship
- Profiling potential of young employees in the country
- Some possibilities for young people to start their own business in modern conditions

However, participants in the forum expressed concern about the lack of preparation of graduates of a number of universities to work on a specialty in the market conditions and their inflated self-esteem. It was noted that the country's future would have negative impact due to good educated talented young people currently going abroad in search of better jobs. Attention was drawn to the career centers of universities updatable database of vacancies, the timely introduction of appropriate changes.

Having considered all of the above points and having heard the reports of the participants on the current state of youth employment, the following recommendations have been developed for all relevant government agencies and university career centers of Kyrgyzstan, to contribute to the development of a national strategy to increase youth employment and entrepreneurship development in Kyrgyzstan. The recommendations are as follows:

1. It's necessary to **improve training in universities, to meet the realities of the labor market.**
2. **Improve Career Guidance** of the Kyrgyz universities **with high school students** in order to guide them to the conscious choice of future profession
3. Career Centers of the universities should **make better use of the conducted youth labor exchange, job fairs, round tables on employment** etc. in order to assist the employment of graduates
4. Increase the practice in universities of **arranging meetings between employers and students, involvement of practitioners in teaching relevant disciplines**
5. Career Centers and structures of universities should pay attention to the **development of volunteerism among students**, the use of **training to acquire skills, training on resume writing**, and the **ability to demonstrate their knowledge & skills in interviews** with potential employers
6. In order to reduce the outflow of trained young people abroad, the Forum notes the **need to improve financial rewards for the work of young professionals**, particularly in the budgetary organizations.
7. It is necessary to draw the attention of the relevant public authorities on the lack of participation of commercial, business organizations in organizing the passage of graduates' practices in their organizations without pay. It requires **improvement in the participation of government agencies in the employment of young cadres, career development of young people.**
8. The **universities need to improve the relationship with their graduates** for their professional work, promotion at work.
9. Send Forum recommendations to the Ministry of Education and Science of the Kyrgyz Republic, Ministry of Labour, migration and youth of the Republic, co-authors of the draft.