



Support of Educational and Employment Development in Albania, Kosovo and Serbia

Quarterly Newsletter 1

What is SEED?

The three-year program "SEED" started in January 2014 to support women and young people to enter in the labor market, through education and employment mediation. SEED stands for **Support of educational and employment development in Albania, Kosovo and Serbia** and is funded by the Austrian Development Cooperation.

Who implements SEED?

The main lead partner is Volkshilfe Solidarität - Austria and implementing partner organizations are "Community Development Center Today for the Future" - Albania, "Syri I Vizionit" - Kosovo "TARA Intl. Consulting" and the "Novi Sad Humanitarian Centre" - Serbia.

SEED aims to improve access to the labor market for women and youth to alleviate poverty and to contribute to gender equality.

Where is SEED?

SEED Regions of Intervention:

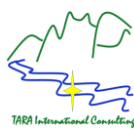
- **Albania** (*districts Shokdra, Puka and Lezha*)
- **Serbia** (*Apatin and Kula in the north and Surdulica and Vladicin Han in the south*)
- **Kosovo** (*region Dukagjini*)

Albania

The program in Albania is implemented by **Community Development Center "Today for the Future" (CDC-TFF)**.

Its intervention logic is related to the objective structure of the framework programme. With the support of Austrian Development Agency, Albania (ADA), Volkshilfe Solidarität Leben and Ministry of Social Welfare and Youth (MMSR), it is focused at creating the ground for the

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successful professional training and life skills of women and youth beneficiaries of the project, and in the same time at involving local institutions and other private stakeholders in a stable and joint process of women and youth empowerment.

Gender equality is in the focus of the programme intervention as a tool to facilitate the social and economical integration of women in the labor market and local societies and to raise awareness on state interventions on this theme, which is relevant in the target areas of Albania.

Programme intervention is based on designed mechanisms for improved cooperation and participation of all stakeholders active in women and youth empowerment, through use of vertical and horizontal approaches. The basis of intervention shall be ensured by appropriate studies and assessments that will create the ground for the needed and sustained employment of women and youth.

In addition, the state VET system will be incorporated in the project by providing the training to the project beneficiaries. The mediation for the employment of women and youth will be fostered by actions that aim their sustainable employability in cooperation and network with local governance, public institutions, other NGOs, private sector and relevant clusters. The programme intervention includes know - how and expertise sharing that will enhance cooperation and interaction with Serbia and Kosovo Partners on social, economic and community development and gender equality; which will create new opportunities for continuation of joint efforts toward regional economic and social empowerment within the overall framework programme.