

SHARE – Second chance



Reentry services for ex offenders and former drug users

General info

Although they have paid their debt and served their time, individuals with a criminal history are too often denied the opportunity at redemption and turned away from legitimate employment, which would help engage them in productive activities that improve the quality of life for everyone and enable them to become productive members of society.

About 2700 individuals (including about 70 women) are returning home to their communities from prisons each year. Thousands of families in Moldova struggle with the consequences of punitive criminal justice policies, as once individuals are released they cannot be adequately rehabilitated which leads to recidivism (approx. 51% according to National Penitentiary Administration data). Not surprisingly, employment rates for ex-prisoners are typically low.

Many offenders have difficulty finding permanent, unsubsidized, well-paid employment after release because they lack job-seeking experience, education, a work history, and occupational skills; furthermore, many employers refuse to hire individuals with criminal records. These circumstances seriously affect an ex-offender's stability because unemployment is consistently associated with high recidivism rates.



Project goal

To empower men, women and young adults leaving prison and/or with substance addiction history, need to develop their employability and self-confidence, in order to find a job they can thrive in sustainable manner.

Project description

The SHARE Second Chance is designed on the assumption that helping ex-prisoners find jobs — particularly during the period immediately after release — will ultimately lead to lower recidivism. In the short term, the program will raise employment directly through **the transitional jobs**. Over the long term, the transitional job experience is designed to help beneficiaries develop “world of work” or “soft” skills, such as punctuality and the ability to work in a team — and to build a track record of

successful performance on the job — that will help them get and keep a permanent job later on.

BASIC INFO:

Period of implementation: 2021 – 2022

Private partner: SRL Bertam Grup

Budget: 69 906 EUR

Project approach

The following three results, with a mutual consolidation approach, will ensure the successful implementation of the project:

Result 1 – 100 men, women and young adults leaving prison and with substance addiction history receive job-readiness training and personal development mentorship program to enable them to enter or re-enter the workforce.

Result 2 – 50% of all trained people (35 men and 15 women) and young adults leaving prison and with substance addiction history are enrolled into 3 months' transitional jobs.

Result 3 – 20% of trained people (10 men and 10 women) and young adults leaving prison and with substance addiction history are enrolled into permanent jobs (more than 6 months) and are successfully reintegrated in the community.

SHARE Second Chance is applying a cross-sectoral lens to its interventions, contributing to several SDGs. First of all, the project aims to contribute to reducing inequalities (SDG10). Through project effective services, vulnerable people can get equal access to education and vocational trainings, acquiring knowledge and skills (SDG4), increasing employment and offering decent work for all women and men (SDG8) and also reinforcing women's empowerment, giving women equal rights and opportunities for economic sustainability (SDG5), as well as strengthen prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol (SDG3).

Project actions embrace the 2030 Agenda's vision of sustainable development in which decent jobs and employment opportunities for all, people's livelihoods, health and wellbeing - are addressed not separately but as one.

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