



MUNICIPALITY OF LATSIA

Structural youth unemployment and local development strategies

PROJECT JOBTOWN

Programme URBACT II



The Mayor of Latsia
Mr. Panayiotis Kyprianou

GENERAL INFORMATION

Municipality of: **Λατσία**

Established in: **1986**

Area: **1.628,11 hectares (12.170 donums)**

Population: 1946: **179**

1960: **485**

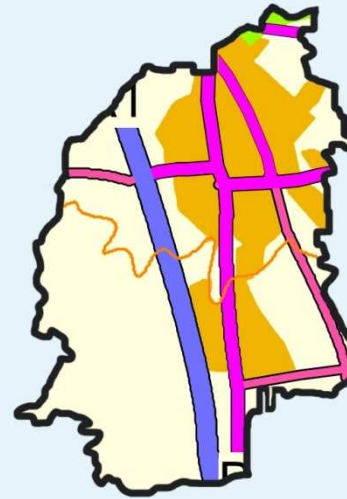
1982: **7.558**

2001: **12.195**

Mayor: **Πανayiotis Kyprianou**

Municipal Councillors: **12**

Borders with: **Άγλαντζια, Θάλι, Λακατάμια and Στροβόλος Municipalities and with the villages Νισού, Ίσει and Ύερι.**



Latsia had formerly been a feud and a chiflik, while today it is a developing town with large industries. The Apalos/Kakkaristra geopark, the Pedagogic Institute of Cyprus and the Olympic Shooting Ground are found here. It is covered by Nicosia Local Plan. With regard to its area, it is the 24th largest Municipality in Cyprus and the 71st largest settlement in Nicosia district. With regard to its population, it is the 6th largest settlement in Nicosia district and the 11th largest in Cyprus.

Kick-off Meeting

Cesena

07 June 2012



GENERAL INFORMATION

Latsia covers an area of 16,28 Km² with 16.000 citizens. It hosts a large industrial area in which 200 factories are employing over 5000 workers and play a significant role in the economy of Cyprus.



Significant constructions and services in the municipality's area: municipal theatre, municipal parks, educational structures (schools, gymnasiums, lyceum), National Park of Athalassa which is the biggest park of Cyprus (physical environment has been preserved) an annex of the University of Cyprus, the Olympic shooting stadium of Cyprus etc.



Kick-off Meeting



Cesena

07 June 2012



Structural youth unemployment and local development strategies: Partner's situation

Structural youth unemployment is a problem that exists in Cyprus and in the Municipality of Latsia as well. This problem has worsened because of the current economic crisis. In addition, the lack of job openings and employment opportunities has driven young people in seeking any kind of employment available even if the job position's requirements are much lower than their educational, skills and experience level. The above mentioned problems are factors that tackle labour market's cycle development and also minimise the opportunity for young people to join the market offering their knowledge in boosting the economy through key positions.



Kick-off Meeting

Cesena

07 June 2012



Structural youth unemployment and local development strategies: Partner's situation

According to official statistics presented by Eurostat, youth unemployment rate Cyprus recorded one of the highest increases in unemployment among EU member states, together with Spain and Greece, from November 2010 to November 2011. Cyprus unemployment in November 2011 stood at 9.1% in relation to 6% in November 2010. This percentage still falls under the EU average of 9.8%. Unemployment in young people under 25 also increased in Cyprus between September 2010 (15.3%) and September 2011 (23.1%).

According to the Minister of Labor and Social Insurance, Mrs. Soteroula Charalambous supporting measures are needed for the integration of young people into the labor market, such as vocational training, counseling support, practice periods and the provision of financial motives to develop business activities. She noted that these are some of the measures which can contribute to the normal transition from training to employment and promote the employment of young people. The Cypriot Minister notes that young people have been affected the most by the financial crisis and as a result youth unemployment has risen and the periods of unemployment are longer.



Structural youth unemployment and local development strategies: Partner's challenges

Main challenges faced by the Municipality of Latsia regarding the matter in question are the following:

- Educational choices not based on labor market information
- Lack of suitable career advisory, or access to it
- Insufficient relevance and suitability of education and training
- Lack of skills and preparedness for work among school leavers, couple
- Rising demand for higher-skilled labor
- Lack of demand due to declining or stagnant economic and production models
- Problems with the recognition qualifications gained through non-formal and informal learning
- The exclusion of youth from social and political dialogue



Structural youth unemployment and local development strategies: policies and concrete actions developed so far

Promotion of the measures implemented by the Republic of Cyprus, such as a plan to grant motives for the employment of unemployed persons from vulnerable groups of the population, as well as a special plan of giving work experience and jobs to unemployed graduates of tertiary education. In addition, the provision of consultation to youngsters regarding their participation to "Emergency Scheme for the Support of Employment through in-company individual training of the unemployed", implemented by a partnership of various public agencies that provides job placement and training of the unemployed (3-6 months). More specifically, the scheme provides subsidies to "tailor-made" training programs.

The partnership between the Cyprus Productivity Centre, the Higher Hotel Institute of Cyprus (HHIC) and the Department of Labor of the Ministry of Labor and Social Insurance is coordinated by the Human Resources Development Authority. This measure was initiated in the frame of the Special Action Plan of the Human Resources Development Authority. The implementation of this scheme began in October 2009. According to the Human Resources Development Authority, total spending for this scheme is planned to reach €3.300.000 in 2012 (660 beneficiaries) in comparison with €4.500.000 in 2011 (1000 beneficiaries).



Municipality of Latsia and Jobtown Project

Scope of the Local Action Plan to be developed within the framework of the network:

Production of supportive measures to be implemented by the Municipality of Latsia, education and training, promotion, cooperation with the authorities responsible for policy formulation and policy recommendations towards increasing the variety and number of job opportunities.

Organizations to be involved in the initial URBACT Local Support Group to be set up during the Development phase:

Several key stakeholders will be addressed to become members of the LSG such as the Local Development Agency, Local Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Human Resources Development Authority, Local Youth Organizations, Departments of Ministry of Labour and Social Insurance.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!!!

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