

## PR: 2021: New Erasmus+ Project **Entre4all** educates people with disabilities to become social entrepreneurs

**ENTRE4ALL** is a new Erasmus+ project with the aim of providing training in entrepreneurship for people with disabilities. The 5 partner organisations Center Ponovne Uporabe (Slovenia), RIC Novo Mesto (Slovenia), Emphasys Centre (Cyprus), equalizent (Austria), Kentro AMEA Agios Lazaros (Cyprus) and DIMITRA Education & Consulting (Greece) are experts in the fields of education and social entrepreneurship.

According to the WHO World Report on Disability from 2011 approximately 15% of the European population has a disability. **People with disabilities** face many barriers and prejudice on the first labour market. Statistically, people with disabilities are more likely to be unemployed, earn lower wages and are more likely to experience employer discrimination. In contrast, they are as likely as people without a disability to be self-employed. Amongst the reasons for the increasing number of entrepreneurs with disabilities are increased independence and autonomy. Self-employment provides a sense of **self-empowerment** because entrepreneurs are more likely to be integrated, both socially and economically. Unfortunately, people with disabilities who want to become entrepreneurs face barriers such as lack of knowledge or skills, a lack of appropriate and accessible business support services, consumer discrimination and so on. **Entre4all** aims to dismantle some of these barriers.

Why social entrepreneurship? Social entrepreneurship addresses pressing social challenges and social needs in innovative ways. It focuses on social impact and reaches out to vulnerable groups.

**Entre4all** aims to enable people with disabilities to acquire competences in the field of **digital and entrepreneurial skills** to empower them to become social entrepreneurs. **Entre4all** will develop accessible resources such as an online platform with learning modules and discussion forum, a database with learning resources and a map of social entrepreneurship initiatives through Europe. Additionally **Entre4all** community centres will be opened as hubs for people with disabilities to meet, exchange ideas and find support. **Entre4all** will offer a training course for people interested in acquiring skills in digital competences and social entrepreneurship.

“As social entrepreneurship is an innovative form of entrepreneurship with a great sense of responsibility for society and people, the inclusion of people with disabilities in this form of entrepreneurship is very important. It is characteristic of social entrepreneurship that business motives are in solving social, economic, environmental and other problems of society in an innovative way. This is a real challenge for vulnerable groups, so **Entre4all** opens the door to the world and a better future for many who have not had this opportunity so far.”, says Marinka Vovk, CEO of Center Ponovne Uporabe.

For more information, visit the **Entre4all** website at <https://www.Entre4all.eu/> or keep up with all the latest news by following **Entre4all** on Facebook

(<https://www.facebook.com/Entre4all/>), Instagram (<https://www.instagram.com/Entre4all/>) or YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFcWlXhCtF-63fsS5mlclrQ>).

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