



The end of AmuNEET Journey: Success, Learning, and Future Plans

The [AmuNEET](#) project has successfully concluded, marking a significant impact in addressing youth unemployment in Sicily. This initiative involved 26 young Sicilian NEETs to participate in a social empowerment experience of about 12 months within the ALMA programme, which included a preparation phase with individual coaching and counselling sessions, a work-related mobility experience in [APROXIMAR](#) (Portugal), [ASSOCIACIÓ ALBA](#) (Spain) and [KEA](#) (Greece) and a follow-up phase combining individual coaching and career guidance with further reflection and their integration into the labour market, in education or trainings.

ALMA – Aim, Learn, Master, Achieve - is an ESF+ initiative within the "Social Innovation+ call". It aims to support young people not in employment, education or training (the so-called NEETs, "Not in Employment, Education or Training"). The program promotes the social empowerment of disadvantaged youth by helping them integrate into society, improve their skills, knowledge, and experience and boost their self-confidence. The goal is to help disadvantaged youth integrate into society by accessing employment or training courses through educational and vocational experiences abroad and ultimately find their way into the labour market.

In the past 18 months following key activities were implemented and results were achieved:

SELECTION AND PREPARATION OF PARTICIPANTS

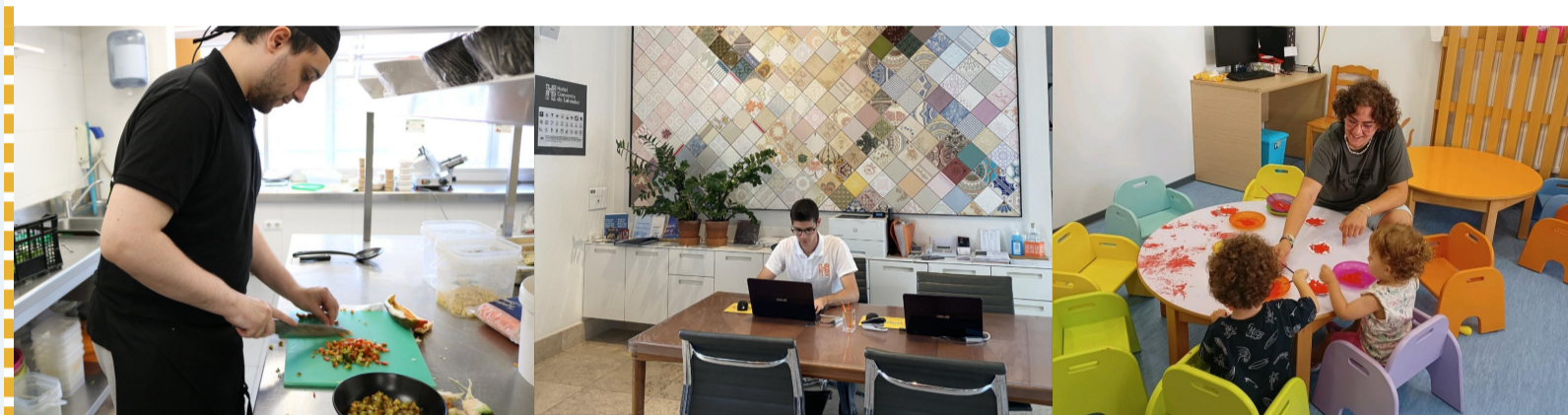
In March 2024, CESIE ETS selected 24 NEETs through a call that was disseminated in regional level, which involved young unemployed, unemployable and not engaged in training. Following the selection, participants underwent non-formal education, soft skills training, and language courses to prepare for their internships abroad in Greece, Portugal, and Spain starting in June 2024.

SIX-MONTH INTERNSHIPS ABROAD

At the end of June 2024, three groups of eight participants each left for six-month mobility abroad, in Syros (Greece), Lisbon (Portugal), and Tarrega (Spain). Hosted by partner organizations – KEA in Greece, Aproximar in Portugal, and Associació Alba in Spain, the participants engaged in work-related learning experiences across various sectors, including tourism, sport, gardening, childcare education, and cultural activities. Regular follow-ups monitored their progress, ensuring continuous development of professional and personal skills.

Visit the previous newsletter to know more about the preparation and mobility phase:

[Read newsletter #2](#)



FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES AND CAREER GUIDANCE!

Upon returning from the mobility experience abroad, participants were involved in a three-month of follow-up activities that combined evaluations, individual coaching and career guidance. More specifically, this phase focused on reflecting on their experiences abroad, assessing learning outcomes, and facilitating integration into education, vocational training, or in employment. The personalised support aimed to empower their skills and confidence gained during the internships to foster sustainable career paths.

FINAL CONFERENCES AT NATIONAL LEVELS!

In March 2025, each partner from the project organised the national event in Italy, Greece, Spain and Portugal, with the aim to present the impacts of the project and raise public awareness on project results and to promote ALMA programme.

FINAL CONFERENCE IN ITALY!

On March 27, 2025, CESIE organised the final event named *"Youth and Their Future: Training and Job Opportunities Across Sicily and Europe"* in Palermo, Italy. The event gathered approximately 150 participants, including unemployed youth, NEETs, and representatives from both private and public institutions.

The event began with a welcoming and registration session, followed by a conference which featured presentations on various topics about the situation of NEETs in Sicily, the ALMA Programme, job opportunities within the EU through the EURES network, and the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+) opportunities available in Sicily.

Following the conference, an **"Opportunities Fair"** for youth people and companies was organised, with the participation of different local and regional organizations providing information on training and employment opportunities for young people. Participating organizations were: [Centro per l'impiego di Palermo e Monreale](#), [EUROMADONIE](#), [SEND Sicilia](#), [Euroform](#), [EURES Sicilia](#), [Europe Direct Palermo](#), [Scienze e Sviluppo](#), [Centro Orientamento e Tutorato \(COT\) UNIPA](#), [CESIE ETS](#), [Centro per lo Sviluppo Creativo Danilo Dolci](#) – [ETS](#), [LAND Impresa Sociale](#), [Associazione I.D.E.A.](#) and [FINYOUTH](#).

A roundtable discussion was organised during the event, focusing on the causes and responsibilities associated with the NEET conditions in Sicily, with the participation of [Giorgia Puleo](#), CEO Clean Sicily, [Cinzia Ceroni](#), Rector's delegate for the coordination of the University Orientation and Tutoring Centre (COT), University of Palermo, [Federico Nuzzo](#), EPYC President (European Palermo Youth Center), [Elena Milio](#), SEND Sicilia. The round table was moderated by [Dario Ruvolo](#), Occupational Psychologist – [D6 Social Health District Officer](#), with the active participation of the audiences. Finally, the event concluded with the live musical performances by emerging young artists from Palermo and region, providing a relaxed atmosphere for networking and socializing moments.



PROJECT IMPACTS!

The project has impacted to a significant level:

- **Impacts on Participants** – empowered Sicilian NEETs by providing them with work-related learning experience opportunity for skill development, personal growth, and increased self-confidence. Six months of practical work-related learning experience in another EU country provided hands-on experience, helped them to improve the employability through the acquisition of professional and personal skills and competences that can influence their career paths and personal development.
- **Impacts on Organisational Level** – partner organisations expanded their networks, improved administrative capacities, and enhanced their ability to support NEETs. The national and transnational partnership contributed in creating sustainable networks of stakeholders to support NEETs.
- **Impacts on National and Transnational Level** – contributed to increase youth participation in similar programs like ALMA, strengthened connections with stakeholders, and enhanced support networks for vulnerable groups. The project raised awareness and engagement of young people and relevant stakeholders, including policymakers through final events, as well as other dissemination channels, and project's social media channels.



PROJECT RESULTS AND FUTURE PLANS

AmuNEET is expanding ALMA programme through its widespread dissemination results ([report](#), [testimonial videos](#), best practices, recommendations etc.), through relevant communication tools ([website](#), [Facebook page](#), [Instagram](#), media, conference events, print materials, articles and press releases, etc.). The project has played a vital role to increase CESIE's collaboration with local and national institutions like VET provider, job agencies, training centres that are working with NEETs and in European level including European Commission-funded initiatives, which will help in implementing ALMA types of programme in Sicily in near future.

CESIE will continue supporting NEETs by participating in different programme, as we are set to hosts NEETs from Spain and Germany in near future through ALMA initiatives, we expect this kind of programme will be launch also in Sicilian contests, to be able to engage more NEETs in future ALMA programme.

About the project

AMUNEET: Mobility against youth unemployment in Sicily is a project coordinated by CESIE ETS (a third-sector organisation based in Palermo with over 20 years of experience in education and training activities in local, national and international settings). AMUNEET allowed 24 young Sicilian NEETs (3 groups of 8 people) to participate in a social empowerment experience of about 12 months within the ALMA programme, including a preparation phase with individual coaching and counselling sessions (about 3 months), a work-related mobility experience in Portugal, Spain or Greece (6 months), a follow-up phase (about 3 months).

For further information on the project



Partners

- [CESIE ETS](#) (Italy, Coordinator)
- [Associació Alba](#) (Spain)
- [KEA – Centre of research and development of Syros](#) (Greece)
- [APROXIMAR, Cooperativa de Solidariedade Social, CRL](#) (Portugal)
- [UNIPA – Dipartimento di Scienze Psicologiche, Pedagogiche, dell'Esercizio Fisico e della Formazione](#) (Italy)
- [EURES Sicilia](#) (Italy)
- [EUROMADONIE](#) (Italy)



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