

Newsletter

1st Edition

August/September 2019

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The Challenge

The world of work is changing:

- Hard, academic skills are not enough for the labor market
- Increased demand for soft skills
- Higher education graduates are not well prepared to respond to labor market needs
- The number of unemployed / underemployed Higher Education graduates in Europe is rising

About Reboot

'Reboot - Rebooting, Re-rooting and Re-skilling Unemployed and Underemployed Higher Education Graduates for Work 4.0' is a European project co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Commission. The project aims to increase the employability potential of the unemployed and underemployed Higher Education graduates through free, online training material, focusing on soft and non-cognitive skills.

Project duration: September 2018 – August 2020

Partners: Finland (Vaasa University of Applied Sciences – VAMK / Project coordinator), Belgium (CONNEX – Europe), UK (Inova Consultancy Ltd.), Greece (Militos Consulting SA)

The Reboot Survey

Employment Challenges and Training Needs of Unemployed and Underemployed Higher Education Graduates in Europe

Belgium, Finland, Greece, UK | Age Group: 20-60 | 283 participants (unemployed and underemployed graduates, employers, employing and training organizations' representatives, consultants, researchers)

Key findings:

The nature of unemployment and underemployment of EU higher education graduates and what is needed to be tackled:

- High risk groups: young grads, women, migrants, +45 grads
- Skills mismatch: higher education curricula ≠ employers' needs
- A combination of non-cognitive skills is needed to support job-related skills
- Most wanted skills: project skills, problem solving, people skills, agility, curiosity
- Need for holistic employment training services, combining soft skills, hard skills and job seeking skills
- Need for training methodologies: e-learning / face2face / action learning

Download and read the full report [here](#)

The Reboot Workshop



When: 1st of March 2019

Where: Inova Consulting / Sheffield UK

Participants: 13 persons face-to-face and online (Employment trainers and consultants, unemployed and underemployed graduates)

Outcomes:

- 'Traditional' professional and career development models (sector- and discipline-oriented) are gradually surpassed
- The educational system at all levels and especially in Higher Education is not responding successfully to the skills demand and the expectations of the employment environment
- Concrete soft and non-cognitive skills training is needed alongside academic and job-related hard skills

Next steps: The development of the Reboot training provision

Following the results of the Reboot survey and workshop, the project partners have started to develop training solutions to support Higher education unemployed and underemployed graduates to respond to the challenges as identified. The free online training platform to be developed will contain a skills self-assessment tool for graduates and training material for soft skills acquisition in English, Finnish, Greek, and French.

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The Reboot partners:

