

## **Outputs of XI. Forum of Rural Parliament in Slovakia**

Working Group No.3

### **Rural Youth**

#### **Participants of XI. Forum of Rural Parliament in Slovakia in the field of Rural Youth recommend:**

##### **Background / issues:**

The gap between urban and rural life and job opportunities is widening. Agrarian culture and rural tourism are not enough to sustain the rural economy. Research and development, as well as the diversification of the rural economy, call for change. Schools have little reflection on the needs of the labor market. Social disparities, gender inequality and unemployment are becoming a visible problem. The situation in peripheral rural areas limits the progress of future entrepreneurs. Lifestyle has changed and with it the structure of villages, job offers, social activities and interpersonal relationships.

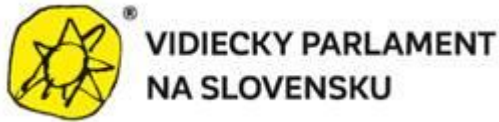
In the countryside, there is a noticeable difference between the quality and availability of services. Services such as health care, education and social system, administration are concentrated in cities. Opportunities in all areas to meet the needs of young people are insufficient. Public institutions in rural areas lack the ability to move forward and innovate, which is one of the main reasons for young people leaving for cities.

##### **Measures:**

- Increase opportunities and improve the conditions for young people living in rural areas to do business through education, non-formal and lifelong learning activities.  
Responsible: Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport, Ministry of Finance and Self-governing Regions
- Create quality job opportunities in rural areas, thus promoting social inclusion and building a relationship with the countryside. Responsible: Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport, Ministry of Finance, Self-governing Regions
- Link formal and non-formal education.  
Responsible: Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport, Self-governing Regions, Schools
- Link formal education with the labor market. Responsible: Elementary school, High school
- Promote the importance of non-formal education and certification of non-formal education and voluntary activities, e.g. YouthPass certification. (\* The YouthPass certificate allows young Europeans to document their experience and acquired competencies from international youth projects, including volunteering).  
Responsible: IUVENTA - NA Erasmus + for youth and sport, Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport, Self-governing Regions



- Create a favorable environment for rural businesses - improve the promotion of funding opportunities, create programs to support high-risk projects, support cooperation between the private and public sectors.  
Responsible: Ministry of Transport and Constraction of SR, Ministry of Finance  
Reducing the gap between urban and rural life. Development of digitization to prevent further widening of the intergenerational gap in the use of digital tools, through financial support, volunteering and networking. Responsible: Ministry of Transport and Constraction of SR, Ministry of Education, Science, Reasearch and Sport, Self-governing Regions
- Improve infrastructure - strengthen accessibility by public transport. Responsible:?
- Improve internet access. Available quality internet should be a matter of course.  
Responsible: Ministry of Transport and Constraction of SR and Mobile operators
- Focus on education and practice within a sector that is in a municipality or nearby area so that pupils in rural areas can find employment in the future.  
Responsible: Ministry of Education, Science, Reasearch and Sport
- Adapt education to local conditions and the needs of the local community.  
Responsible: Ministry of Education, Science, Reasearch and Sport  
Build on expertise and profile professionals in the sector to leverage local resources, industry. Responsible: Ministry of Education, Science, Reasearch and Sport, Self-governing Regions
- Carry out research / analysis and forecasting of new sectors in rural areas.  
Responsible:?  
To link greater continuity and cooperation of primary schools in rural areas to the secondary school and the labor market, Responsible: Ministry of Education, Science, Reasearch and Sport, Self-governing Regions
- Focus on developing cross-cutting key soft skills so that young people can adapt to the ever-changing labor market conditions by 2030. Responsible: Primary and Secondary schools
- Take greater account of the profile and development of pupils' talents in their education. Responsible: Primary and Secondary schools
- Support education in the field of permaculture and sustainable rural development.  
Responsible: Self-governing regions, Organisations working with Youth, Small businesses and others  
Support the development of young people's entrepreneurial skills. Raise awareness of support opportunities for young entrepreneurs. Responsible: Ministry of Education, Science, Reasearch and Sport, Self-governing Regions, Non-formal education organisations, Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Families of SR
- Support non-formal education activities for young people from the city so that they can experience life in the countryside.  
Responsible: Non-formal education organizations, Local authorities
- Create modern Youth Centers. The center will provide space for the realization of children and young people, support them so that they can develop their creativity and help them discover their potential and talent. Young people can also find various opportunities for meaningful leisure time here, as well as a space where they can always come and feel good. The center can also include a low-threshold center, but also training activities for parents and children, e.g. focused on educational problems.



(Support for activities and activities for children and young people can be financed through grant and subsidy support in the field of youth). Responsible: Non-formal education organizations, local authority / youth coordinator

- Focus on surveying the interests of young people in rural areas - identifying their interests and needs. Responsible: Self-governing regions / coordinator of youth work
- Promote the relationship with the craft and the development of craft skills - create a creative industry as a model for young people. Responsible: Self-governing regions / coordinator of youth work /, NGO - non-formal education

After a discussion with members of the Rural Parliament Forum in Slovakia, this paper was prepared by:

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