

# WBL4JOB project's objectives, activities, deliverables and life cycle with special focus on activities for 1st year

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Title of event: Kick-off meeting of the

“Introducing work-based learning in higher education systems of  
Armenia and Moldova for better employability of graduates”  
(WBL4JOB) project

Date: February 10-11, 2021

Zoom platform

[wbl4job.com](http://wbl4job.com)



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# Rational of the project

- The unemployment of youth is still high in Armenia and Moldova
- The report “Labour market in the Republic of Armenia, 2018” mentions 21.3% and 26.9% unemployment respectively for 15-24 and 25-34 age groups in 2017
- According to the World Bank data, the youth unemployment (age group 15-24) was even higher in Armenia, representing 38.59%
- Moreover, for the same period (2018), the unemployed people having higher education represent 65.3% as share of the total

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## Rational of the project

- About 30% of young people in Moldova either were unemployed or were not enrolled in any form of formal education in 2016.
- According to the official data, four out of ten officially registered unemployed people represent the youth sector (aged 15-29 years).
- From the total unemployed young people about 13% were long-term unemployed

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# Rational of the project

- The high unemployment of youth is due, among other factors, to the skills mismatches
- In Moldova more than 30% of graduates do not work compatible with their qualifications, and more than 7 out of 10 people claim they have an acute shortage of skilled labor.
- At the same time, about 60% of employers have a low degree of satisfaction due to the great gap between the knowledge of young specialists and the skills required by the company.
- According to the World Bank report (2012), “the proportion of workers with a tertiary education who are termed as being overqualified exceeds 20%. Thus, one university graduate in five has a job in which his/her skills are not fully utilized”

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# Work-based learning (WBL) as solution

**Work-based learning refers to all forms of learning that takes place in a real work environment allowing learner to participate to the production of good or delivery of service**

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# Work-based learning (WBL) as solution

## What can WBL give?

- Right skills for learners
- Right skills for companies
- Skilled labour force contributing positive contribution to youth employment for State
- University-company effective partnership allowing development of needed skills by universities

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## Project wider objective

**WBL4JOB project intends to enhance partnerships between enterprises and Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) ) with the ultimate aim of promoting work-based learning (WBL) to increase graduates' employability through :**

- ✓ **Development of national policies for implementation of work passed learning (WBL)**
- ✓ **Development of Generic, flexible Apprenticeships Higher Education Models (AHM)**
- ✓ **Supporting legal framework to promote WBL in Armenia and Moldova**

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## Specific project objectives

- **Benchmark analysis on main policy options of WBL, schemes and tools of WBL in higher education in Europe**
- **Capacity building of staff from Armenian and Moldavian higher education institutions, ministries of education, banks and banks' union on policies, schemes and approaches of WBL**
- **Development of National Policy for implementation of WBL (NPI-WBL) in higher education systems of Armenia and Moldova inspired by the European practice**

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# Specific Project Objectives

- **Development of Apprenticeships Higher Education Model (AHEM) for Armenia and Moldova, including practical implementation tool: undergraduate one year apprenticeship based programme “Specialized Licence in Banking and Insurance” (SLBI)**
- **Development of the amendments to national legislations to support the implementation of WBL policies and AHEMs in Armenia and Moldova**
- **Development of university-enterprise partnership innovative schemes through the piloting of the AHEMs**

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# Activities

- **Phase I - Preparation of project kick-off, management structures and training materials for capacity building:**
  - ✓ setting up of management methodology and structure, in updating fact-finding analysis on the current situation of the WBL in Armenian and Moldova
  - ✓ development of training package by partners from EU countries.
  - ✓ purchase of equipment for HEIs
- **Duration: 5 months**

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# Activities

- **Phase II - Capacity building and development of National Policy for Implementation of WBL (NPI-WBL) / Apprenticeship Higher Education Models (AHEMs):**
  - ✓ Capacity building of staff from universities, ministries of education and Banks/Banks' union
  - ✓ Development of draft NPI-WBL
  - ✓ Development of draft supporting legal framework for the implementation of AHEMs in Armenia and Moldova
- **Duration: 18 months**

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# Activities

- **Phase III - Piloting Apprenticeship Higher Education Models (AHEMs):**
  - ✓ Capacity building training of universities' teaching staff and mentors from banks to be involved in apprenticeship based teaching
  - ✓ Piloting of the AHEMs through implementation of one year specialized apprenticeship based programme “Specialized Licence in Banking and insurance” .
- **Duration: 10 months**

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# Activities

- **Phase IV - Finalization of NPI-WBL and AHEMs:**
  - ✓ Delivery of workshop to discuss the results of piloting of AHEMs, NPI-WBLs and legal frameworks
  - ✓ Delivery of national/final dissemination conferences
  - ✓ Elaboration of final report and external assessment audit.
- **Duration: 3 months**

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# Project outputs/outcomes

- **Training Package -“Apprenticeship Policy and Implementation Toolkit”**
- **52 trained staff from Armenian and Moldavian higher education institutions, ministries of education, banks and banks’ union**
- **60 trained universities’ teaching staff and mentors from banks for apprenticeship based teaching/learning**
- **National Policy for implementation of WBL in Armenian and Moldavian higher education systems**

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# Project outputs/outcomes

- **2 Apprenticeships Higher Education Models including an undergraduate one year apprenticeship based programme “Specialized Licence in Banking and Insurance”**
- **Amendments to national legislations supporting WBL**
- **4 equipped universities,**
- **Partnership agreements for activities after lifetime of the project**

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# Main activities for project 1st year

Activities	Dates											
	M1	M2	M3	M4	M5	M6	M7	M8	M9	M10	M11	M12
Project kick-off meeting in Yerevan												
Fact-finding analysis on the situation of the WBL and needed skills in the banks in Armenia/Moldova												
Purchase of equipment for HEIs in PCs												
Preparation of Training Package -“Apprenticeship Policy and Implementation Toolkit” (APIT)												
Organization and delivery of capacity building training on apprenticeship policies, schemes and tools (Lyon)												
Development of NPI-WBL in HE systems in PCs inspired by European experiences												
Development of generic and flexible AHEMs for PCs including practical implementation tool: SLBI												
Organization of capacity building workshop on amendments to national legislations												

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**Thank you!**

**Any questions?**

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