

Dear colleagues,

The municipality of Viladecans (Barcelona, Spain) is looking for partner cities for an URBACT project proposal. The aim of the project is to **promote employability of young people with no qualification or a low level of education**. The project proposes to tackle this challenge with an **innovative working methodology bringing together R&D, Businesses and Cities**.

**Brief description:**

Youth unemployment is a serious problem in Europe, especially in Mediterranean countries such as Spain where the youth unemployment rate is 51%. Viladecans has a high unemployment rate among young people and a low education level in comparison with the average of the surrounding area. In the last few years, however, the City Council has managed to attract a number of companies and projects at metropolitan scale which represents an important opportunity for direct and indirect employment for unemployed young people, both short and long term. In order to make it possible for young people in the city with no qualifications or low levels of education to access these job opportunities, a few obstacles must be overcome: First of all, their skills need to be in line with businesses' needs. Secondly, they should also adapt their curricula to changes in technology, changes in the way we live and relate with other people as well as to globalization effects. In this respect, Viladecans would like to increase the employability and the professional competence of unemployed young people with no qualifications or with a low level of education. The project aims to tackle common problems such as youth unemployment, from an innovative point of view: approaching R&D (in the field of learning) to the specific learning demands and challenges of unemployed people. Innovative activities in the field of education and professional training in cities should create benefits in terms of employability and better skills of the unemployed youth.

**Partners sought:**

Viladecans is looking for partners sharing the same interests and willing to develop innovative solutions to improve the skills of young people, so that they adapt their training curriculum to the current demands of business. We are looking for cities active in the field with interesting experiences in promoting the employability of young people with no qualification or a low level of education.

We are looking for partner cities, as well as a city willing to become Lead Partner of this project.

If you are interested on this proposal, please contact us for further details.

Kind regards,



Carlota Rosés Montesinos  
International Relations  
**Metropolitan Area of Barcelona**  
Tel: +34 93 506 95 57  
e-mail: [croses@amb.cat](mailto:croses@amb.cat)