Co-funded by the European Union

Empowering NEET youth through open innovation and transnational collaboration for skills development and labor market integration.

Welcome to YouthLivingLabs Project Seventh Newsletter!
Join us as we evaluate the first Youth Living Labs cycle and design a model that lasts.

YouthLivingLabs is a 24-month project, co-funded by the ERASMUS-YOUTH-2024-CB of the European Union.

Looking Back to Move Forward!

As the first Youth Living Labs cycle comes to a close, the five partners are evaluating the pilot together, measuring its impact in Spain, Greece, Cyprus, Jordan and Egypt. The lessons learned will feed the Evaluation Report and the YLL Guidelines.

Five Labs, one shared model: highlights from each partner country

Spain
Instituto IKIGAI
8 teams mentored, turning real challenges into 8 solution proposals

Cyprus
AB iED
25 participants combining online training, group mentoring and one-to-one guidance

Greece
Envolve
10 Greek companies brought challenges; 4 prototypes built

Egypt
Jovesolides Egypt
17 interviews in Cairo and Alexandria shaped 4 mentored teams

Jordan
JYIF
5 teams mentored at their own pace across 3 challenge areas

What the Pilot Taught Us

- **Plan for dropout:** 25 teams started and 18 reached the final pitch, so new labs should budget for attrition from day one.
- **Ask companies for realistic time:** one well-defined challenge is enough for a small business to engage.
- **Make inclusion active:** gender balance and reaching youth beyond the capital need dedicated resources, not just targets.
- **Build trust first:** companies value early clarity on time, bureaucracy and intellectual property.

Voices from the Labs

"Youth Living Labs helped me develop new skills, gain confidence in myself, and feel more prepared to take the next steps of my idea."

Stella, participant, Cyprus

"My main challenge was not to give the answer, but to ask the right question and create enough space for young people to find their own solutions."

Youth Living Labs mentor

Designing a Model That Lasts!

With input from all partners, the consortium is shaping the YLL Sustainability Model around three elements:

Alumni & Ambassadors
Youth ambassadors and recurring events keep participants connected and bring new young people in.

Replication
A framework to take the model to new regions, starting with a local needs assessment.

Evaluation
Surveys, focus groups and clear indicators so every new lab can measure and improve.

The Final Stretch Begins!

With the evaluation of the pilot wrapping up and the sustainability model taking shape, YouthLivingLabs enters its final month. October brings our biggest moments yet. Don't miss our last newsletter!

PROJECT PARTNERS

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