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AMPOSDRU



Fondul Social European  
POSDRU 2007-2013



Instrumente Structurale  
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OIPOSDRU



## INVEST IN PEOPLE!

### Project Description

#### THE EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND

The Sectorial Operational Programme for the Development of Human Resources 2007 – 2013

Priority axis 2 “Lifelong Correlation of Learning with the Labour Market”

Major intervention field 2.1. “Transition from School to Active Life”

Project title: **Transnational Educational Network for Career Guidance, Counseling and Practice Correlated with the Labour Market, in the Society of Knowledge – PRACTICOR**

Contract no. POSDRU/90/2.1/S/48816

#### PARTNERSHIP FOR STUDENTS' PRACTICE

Through PRACTICOR it is intended to initiate an applicative vision of the notion of practice. The team is unitary and homogenous, also based on complementarity, communion of interests and goals, which aims at offering the young graduates increased chances of access to foreground fields that lead to a sustainable development of the European society, such as, for example, those regarding traditional and recyclable energy resources, advanced transports and technologies, in order to protect the environment and to ensure a harmonious evolution within the transnational space of the society in the process of durable development.

Through general and strategic objectives, the partnership joins accredited academic institutions with tradition, with academic educational attributions and attributions in the organization of the students' practice, focused on foreground objectives as well as on career guidance and counseling of the future students, together with representative research-development units. Due to their tradition, but also to the necessity of excellence development, these units support the students' practice and are a major voice in the outlining of the future visions of the directions of development in fields such as energy safety, implementation of recyclable energies, environment protection, modern transport and advanced technology, which sustain them. The partners are aware that practice should become the main link between the trainer of specialists and the society's needs of durable development based on knowledge.

The partnership will work in real time – according to the European experience and foreground strategies, to respond to the effective needs of the society, and becomes the basis of the professional formation of the future human resources, with real and increased chances to find a stable job, with continuity, in accordance with the students' professional training and the requirements of the society. It will be active, supported by industrial/economic units (practice partners), The Information and Counseling Centre for Students and the Students' Association.

The PRACTICOR project proposes an innovative model (vision) of practice for the students from technical universities (UPT and UPit), in order to increase performance and quality. The revival of the notion of applicative practice, directly linked to economic units, will complement the information with which the student, after becoming a graduate, finalizes his/her studies. We also hope that

PRACTICOR will contribute to the enlargement of the selection basis of the candidates to academic education, following the activity of professional counseling of high school pupils, in correlation with the development needs of the economy. We intend to promote and financially support the activity of practice because it is an important element to increase the students' chances to an active professional life. The project will also contribute to the formation of tutors coming from the economic-industrial environment (partner firms for practice) who should form the link between education and economic units, in the context of the actual requirements, thus increasing the sustainability of the operational objectives of the project.

In short, PRACTICOR is the instrument by means of which pupils are guided and counseled to continue their studies in the field of engineering, and the students are counseled and financed so they can choose the best suited direction of specialization in order to obtain a B.Sc. degree and a M. Sc. degree, doubling their theoretical knowledge by practice and activities related to aspects of technological avant-garde and useful applications for society on the whole, through direct contact with (private and state) companies which thus become practice partners within the project.

### **Project Objectives**

#### **❖ General Objective**

The organization of the students' practice in order to offer them increased chances, consolidated by training, in accordance with reality, as well as guidance and counseling to those who wish to have successful careers in foreground fields of engineering and to improve their skills by practice, correlating the educational process with the labour market.

#### **❖ Specific Objectives**

1. To achieve durable partnerships with the employers for the practice of the students from the "Politehnica" University of Timișoara (Faculty of Mechanics) and the University of Pitești respectively and to establish a good relationship with the business community, which we hope to be a long-lasting one;
2. To form a network of tutors (coming from industrial, commercial, production and research units) to coordinate and guide the students' practice, in accordance with the concrete needs of the society and the present stage of the knowledge of firms and scientific and technical evolution in general;
3. To develop a career guideline and counseling system integrated in the students' practice as well as in their professional and academic education in general;
4. To train and develop the necessary students' competencies for their future job and in order to ensure their future, including the formation of professional opening abilities;
5. To promote and disseminate the results and examples of good practice developed within the project;
6. To generate the material resources to enlarge the experience for the continuity and generalization of the project idea after its finalization.

The proposed **short-term** objective is the increase of the number of pupils persuaded to choose careers in engineering. They are going to be formed in consensus with the social and the employers' necessities. After finalizing their studies and acquiring a valuable amount of practical knowledge, the students will have an early contact with the labour market and will have the chance to choose a study and training option for specialization from a range of well-defined offers.

The **medium-term** objective is the shortening of the period between the finalization of studies and the moment of employment, thus eliminating the risks of not having the necessary practical training complementary to the theoretical competencies. In this way we can reduce the number of cases when the youths' activity is carried on in other fields than those for which they have been trained. There will also be reduced the risks of getting qualified and working in unrequired fields or of beginning an additional training involving additional costs and efforts.

The **long-term** objectives are: to diminish the civil society's expenses for education, to support the development of some extremely necessary sectors for a modern society, by bringing the employers,

high school graduates and high schools respectively closer to the universities and the universities closer to the economic environment (production, research etc), as well as to increase the chances of the society to progress and durable development by its own forces and visionary actions of collaboration with the educational system (at academic and high school level).

### **Target Group**

- ❖ G1– minimum 600 pupils matriculated in the national educational system.
- ❖ G2 – minimum 1995 students from the “*Politehnica*” University of Timișoara (Faculty of Mechanics) and the University of Pitești respectively (from specializations and fields which are insufficiently represented on the labour market);
- ❖ G3 – minimum 70 specialized staff with tutorial attributions, from the companies that organize practice stages (practice partners), who will attend free trainer CNFPA accredited courses .

The selection criteria for the target group (pupils, students, tutors) shall respect the principle of equal opportunities, and for the selection of the students the financial-social conditions, professional results and motivation shall be also taken into consideration, in the spirit of equity and competitiveness.

### **Benefits for the Students**

The students participating to the project will be supported to accomplish the practice stage according to the syllabuses and specific provisions of each field and specialization, including the collateral activities related to the research and study for the diploma and master papers.

By participating to the project the students are offered:

- **Supporting materials** (textbooks, guides, counseling) necessary for the accomplishment of the practice stages;
- **Career guidance and counseling** by specialized personnel through documentation visits, trips for the presentation of the partner firms for practice;
- A professional link with **well-known companies** and potential employers;
- **Integral financing** of the expenses related to the students’ practice – accommodation, daily allowance, transportation, supporting materials, protection equipment;
- **Promotion and prize awarding** for outstanding results;
- Adaptation to the **job** requirements and needs;
- Facilitation of the **transition** from school to a job.