



Youth Employability Competences



Methods used for organising and implementing Advisory Boards

Background

Four of the partners of the YEC project organised and ran both employer and youth Advisory Board sessions. They used a number of different methods to set up and run the groups to encourage retention of participants and participation during the meetings.

Methods Used

- Ensuring that participants were genuinely interested in the themes of the project before they were recruited and subsequently linking back activities / discussions to participants' life situations and interests
- Whilst the group was forming using name games, team building activities and icebreakers to build trust and connections within the group and to give the sessions an element of fun
- Basing meetings on group discussions about given topics or project results
- Using prepared group works (especially for the young persons' board), including those that developed their competencies
- Simulations and role play within the group
- Space for young people to reflect on their participation within the group and how this has grown their competencies / skills
- Using ideas from the Methodological guide to support the process
- Ensuring that the sessions were interactive and as participant led as possible
- Ensuring that the group knew that any feedback they gave was taken forward, considered and had an impact
- Using a non-formal learning approach
- Using the participatory appraisal method which enables participants to identify their own priorities and their own decisions
- Breaking the larger group into smaller break out groups or pairs to build confidence and participation
- Recapping regularly throughout the meeting and checking understanding
- Holding the space well through good time management, clear structures and planned agendas when needed and taking notes at each meeting which then went out to participants. These notes were then reviewed at the following meeting to ensure consistency and as a memory jogger for participants

