





## PRESS RELEASE 18 March 2025

Jobsplus launches €12 million Training for Employment (TfE) Project

Jobsplus has announced the launch of the second edition of its Training for Employment (TfE) project, a €12 million initiative under the European Social Fund+ Programme 2021–2027. Running until December 2029, the project aims to equip job seekers with industry-relevant skills to enhance employability in Malta's evolving labour market.

The first TfE project (2014-2020) successfully supported over 9,000 individuals, with 50% of unemployed or inactive participants securing employment within six months. Additionally, 89% obtained a qualification or certification, further strengthening their career prospects.

Building on these achievements, the second edition of the TfE project will support working-age individuals who are currently not in employment through the following key initiatives:

## 1. Work Exposure Scheme (WES)

<u>WES for Mainstream Participants</u> - Provides unemployed individuals or those not in full-time education with hands-on experience in a real working environment. Participants will be placed with employers and receive practical training aligned with their chosen occupation.

- Training duration: 200 or 280 hours, depending on the occupation
- Training allowance payable by Jobsplus:
  - o €7.50/hour for occupations under ISCO groups 3 to 5
  - National minimum wage for occupations under ISCO groups 6 to 9

<u>WES for Summer Students</u> - Open to students aged 17 to 24 enrolled in full-time higher education, this scheme offers short-term placements with employers, allowing participants to gain practical experience in various occupations under ISCO groups 3 to 5.

- Training duration: 200 hours (to be completed within a maximum of 10 weeks)
- Training allowance payable by Jobsplus: €7.50/hour

## 2. Traineeship Scheme

Designed for individuals who are not in employment, this scheme integrates on-the-job and offthe-job training to enhance employability.

- On-the-job training: 270-hour placement with an employer
- Off-the-job training: 50-hour Jobsplus course focused on soft skills
- Training allowance payable by Jobsplus:
  - o €7.50/hour for occupations under ISCO groups 3 to 5
  - National minimum wage for occupations under ISCO groups 6 to 9

## 3. Research Study on the Job Outlook of Gen Z and Gen Alpha

This study will examine how the next generation of workers is shaping workforce trends, training needs, and workplace dynamics. The research aims to provide valuable insights for industries and educational institutions to better prepare for the evolving employment landscape.

With these initiatives, Jobsplus remains committed to bridging skills gaps, strengthening employability, and supporting individuals in re-entering the workforce. As strategic partners in this project, employers play a crucial role in shaping a skilled and adaptable workforce that meets the demands of the labour market.

Aligned with Malta's Employment Policy and the European Social Fund Plus objectives, the TfE project is designed to foster a resilient, inclusive, and future-ready workforce, ensuring a stronger and more adaptable labour market for years to come.

For more information on these initiatives, visit **jobsplus.gov.mt** or contact us via email at <u>trainingschemes.jobsplus@gov.mt</u>, or by phone at 2220 1610 / 616 / 635.

