

## CASE STUDY:

# REDUCING YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT



## Background

High youth unemployment in Dragash is due to few employers recruiting young people, resulting in less opportunities for youth to enter into the labor market. On the job training which may take the form of apprenticeships, internships, or learning-by-doing while employed would help alleviate this constraint. Skills for Rural Employment (S4RE) is working on reducing poverty by enhancing youth employment. This requires cooperation between the project, businesses and sometimes schools.

## Intervention

Analyzing the needs of this area, S4RE cooperated with an experienced trainer and entrepreneur in providing training to a group of youth who was eager to learn about installing central heating. A group of 15 youth attended theoretical part of the training which provided knowledge on how to calculate, install, and cut heating tubes.

To foster the youth learning and integrate the theoretical knowledge into practice, the youth acquired practical skills in working with a community of professionals. Divided into two groups they rehearsed their learning in private companies operating in Dragash and Prizren, enabling them to connect directly with the labor market. The practical part of the training motivated the participants, proving to be a successful way for youth to find employment. It increased their skills while doing central heating installation and importantly they also learnt how to deal with customers.

## Final Result

As a result the group found itself more secure on what they were doing because of the theory training provided. The on-job training encouraged them to open their own businesses. Seven youth from the group were employed after the training, including two who work part-time.

Shkëndim Bislimi and Reis Ahmeti became very successful during the training and afterwards. They learned how to do a complete heating installation and became professional in this field. What made them really excited about the training was the certification they will get at the end of a work well done.

“ It is an incredible opportunity for the youth to acquire skills and find employment. Therefore, I would strongly recommend to the project to continue helping the youth in Dragash, who have very limited opportunities. ”

**Reis Ahmeti**