

Project title: IPSilon – application of effective supported employment model for people with psychosocial difficulties

Project leader: NGO Vida – helping people with substance use disorders

Partner: IPS Norway AS

Project implementation period: September 1, 2022 – December 31, 2023

Project total value: 89.999,96 €

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Link to relevant internet pages: <https://www.droga-online.com.hr/>

Project summary:

Individuals with mental health difficulties, due to complex impacts on psychosocial functioning, are among the most challenging groups to employ, with persistently low employment rates in Croatia. Although supported employment laws and measures exist, the system inadequately addresses the specific needs of this vulnerable group and stakeholders such as employers and social care providers.

This project implements a pilot of a proven supported employment model for individuals with mental health difficulties, promotes the model, and informs professionals, users, and employers about its application and potential improvements. Activities include advocacy targeting policymakers to enhance the effectiveness and comprehensiveness of the employment support system.

The project aims to provide evidence and guidelines for policy and service development, engage stakeholders in advancing the right to work for this vulnerable group, and empower users to advocate for necessary changes.

The added value of the project lies in the potential to adapt the model for other vulnerable groups in the labor market and the initiative to integrate the model into the national supported employment system. This contributes to social justice and greater support for vulnerable groups. The project is led by Vida, an experienced organization in labor inclusion, with comprehensive support from the expert partner IPS Norge.