The EUROPEAN PACT 4 YOUTH

Progress review

November 2015 - June 2017
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Dear Reader,

With four more months to go, the European Pact for Youth is heading towards its culmination at the 1st European Business-Education Summit at 23 November. However, this still leaves the Pact partners with good opportunities to, together, keep promoting a culture of business-education partnerships for a pro-youth, pro-innovation, sustainable Europe, both at local and European level.

Progress so far

The last data illustrated how the European Pact for Youth partners have a total capacity of at least 15,238 business-education partnerships. Through these partnerships, they impacted over 2,9 Million youth. Thereby, they engaged 66,890 teachers and mobilised at least 13,309 of their own employees. Also, through these partnerships the Pact partners offered 91,343 new opportunities in the form of traineeships, apprenticeships or entry-level jobs.

In the meantime, these achievements contribute to larger macro-developments that are observed through-out Europe. Namely, between February 2015 and February 2017, the EU-28 saw a steadily decrease in youth unemployment* from 20.9% to 17.3%. This translates to 920,000 more youth finding employment. From 2015 to 2017 there were also a decrease of 658,000 youth belonging to a particularly vulnerable group, namely those being neither in employment, education or training (NEET).*

In the summer period, the Pact partners will provide further data. This will paint a full picture of the Pact’s impact when it comes to a close.

Joint proposals for long-standing impact

The Leaders of the Pact already endorsed two proposals: one on making VET/Apprenticeships an equal choice for youth, and another on making business-education partnerships the new norm. Already, there are some positive developments, most notably, with the European Commission’s recent decision to launch ErasmusPRO, for the long-term mobility of apprentices. The initial proposal by the Commission is backed by a €200M budget, and aims to facilitate up to 50,000 new mobility opportunities.

The way ahead

The Pact partners re-convene at the 23 November 1st European Enterprise-Education Summit, part of the European Vocational Skills week. Here, they will present the final results in terms of joint policy proposals, partnerships, and the national action plans. The meeting will be the place for the various actors of the Pact to equip themselves with the tools needed to continue, to learn from peers, and to showcase their achievements, whilst also looking at the road ahead. We hope to see you there!

* source: Eurostat, with the youth unemployment for 15-24 year olds
2. Mid-term progress on targets and methodology

The Pact for Youth is part of the concerted effort to empower European youth together with national reforms and European programmes and platforms such as Erasmus+ and the Youth Guarantee.

15,238 Business-Education Partnerships
- 66,890 teachers engaged
- 13,309 employees engaged
- 2.9 million learners impacted

91,238 new opportunities for youth created
- Traineeships
- Apprenticeships
- Entry-level jobs

Targeted activities
- 49% Basic skills
- 35% Digital skills
- 21% NEETs
- 51% Entrepreneurial & soft skills
- 42% Career counselling
- 42% Girls in STEM & STEM support

The data below is based on responses from an estimated 50% sample of all Pact for Youth supporters reporting on the period 2015-2016. Data for the 2015-2017 will be available in November 2017.

2015-2017 EU trends show overall decrease in

- Youth unemployment
  212,000 fewer unemployed under 25 year olds
- Number of NEETs
  658,000 fewer NEETs
- Expected job vacancies in ICT sector
  ICT jobs gap down from 756,000 to 500,000

The vision for a long-term strategy is paramount as crucial problems are still in need of solutions

- Scarring effect of long-term unemployment forces people in NEET limbo
- Workers of all ages need to be reskilled for transforming jobs market
- The gender gap in science and technology still needs to be bridged
- Migrant flows require rethinking solutions involving society at large
- Inertia of business-as-usual creates a culture of apathy among leaders

Opportunities

- Pact for Youth
  - European Platforms
  - Erasmus+
  - Youth Employment Initiative
  - Youth Guarantee
  - National reforms

Threats

- Stagnating national reforms
- Stereotypes
- Lack of business investments
- Transformation in education systems is tough
In the European Pact for Youth, businesses and supportive organisations in November 2015 agreed to “support the creation of 10,000 quality business-education partnerships, with the shared target to establish together at least 100,000 new good quality apprenticeships, traineeships or entry-level jobs. [...] To reach these targets, [they] will build on the resources and capacities through existing campaigns and alliance initiatives on skills for jobs and apprenticeships.”

The results presented illustrate the halfway progress of the European Pact for Youth, representing nearly half of the Pact partners.

CSR Europe would like to thanks the following entities for their support in the creation and testing of the methodology and/or questionnaire: IBM, Nestlé, TITAN, GAN, CORE Platform, BLF Czech Republic, BITC Ireland, Sodalitas, CSR Hellas, IMS Entreprendre and UNGC Bulgaria.

Pact supporters were asked the following questions on:

- The number of business-education partnerships. In addition, there were follow-up questions on the impacted number of learners, teachers and organisation managers/employees/trainers, as well as questions related to the predominate focus of the partnerships in terms of; what type of skills were enhanced, what types of programmes/activities were carried out, and what kind of specific target groups were affected.
- In what countries respondents had activities
- The number of new apprenticeships
- The number of new traineeships
- The number of new entry-level positions (both fixed term and indefinite contracts)
- The quality of their programmes

From June 15 to September 15, 2017, Pact partners have the opportunity to provide their numbers for the reporting year 2016 - 2017. To do this, please view the questionnaire [here](#).
3. Company-driven progress

This section provides some examples of how the objectives and proposed actions of the Pact for Youth can be implemented by the various companies:

During the period 2016 - May 2017, 49 students were accommodated in Alpha Bank Albania as interns, 42 of them during the year 2016 and 7 more in the first quarter of 2017. 90% of them were students in the bachelor’s cycle. These students were referred to Alpha Bank Albania mainly by the five major universities in Tirana. The majority of interns were accommodated in order to follow the obligatory internship (university requirement) for their bachelor’s degree. Their profiles were recorded in the recruitment database of Alpha Bank Albania for future employment opportunities.

BASF takes on social responsibility: we are involved in diverse projects worldwide. Our main focus is on access to education. In this way we open opportunities for every single one and the society. Our joint engagement with partners comprises support for day-care centres via schools up to vocational training. In 2015 BASF starts a new experimental programme named “Keep cool!” Worldwide 87,032 children and young people visited our Kids’ Labs and Teens’ Labs in 31 countries. Overall BASF enables 3240 apprentices in 15 countries and over 60 professions to start into their professional life. Moreover BASF SE supports many initiatives and own programmes to integrate refugees into society and labour market. This comes from Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.

BBVA has launched, in collaboration with globally renowned institutions and organisations, a “Center for Financial Education and Capability”, an initiative which aims to promote financial knowledge and help people acquire the skills that allow them to improve their lives and access better and equal opportunities. The “Center for Financial Education and Capabilities” is an online global platform on financial knowledge that makes carefully selected publications on financial skills and financial education easily accessible to everyone. It also includes a complete catalogue of programmes and initiatives promoted by top organisations in the sector due to their innovative nature, efficiency and scope. The other main goal of BBVA’s initiative is to serve as a global forum for academic research and analysis by creating spaces to discuss a wide range of topics related to financial education and capacity building. In this regard, BBVA is partnering with internationally renowned organisations in financial education and inclusion for this initiative (World Bank, Institute of International Finance (IIF), European Banking Federation, Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), Ibero-American General Secretariat, Global Financial Literacy Excellence Center (GFLEC), Centre for Financial Inclusion, as well as a wide range of institutions from the public sector, specialised associations, consumers groups, and NGOs), who share their knowledge and experience through the Advisory Council.

For the moment, the internships at The Centre for Fine Arts (BOZAR) are restricted to a structural cooperation with Espace de Formation PME (technical education centre) for stage technicians and different internships for graduated apprentices within the artistic and communication and marketing departments on a one-to-one basis. The main goal is to help develop the practical and soft skills of these graduates in a cultural environment. In the near future, BOZAR is looking into the development of structural partnerships with educational and social networks in order to offer internships to European graduated apprentices, to stimulate innovation-based exchange programs and to support soft skills in youth through inclusion.
On top of hosting more than 180 internships and apprenticeships and creating more than 20 new entry-level jobs in this first semester of 2017, Bridgestone’s different HR colleagues in Europe keep developing new projects with various academic institutions and non-profit organizations in order to promote new technical skills, entrepreneurial spirit and to provide employment support. For their previous progress, please see Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.

CISCO actively engages in career guidance and digital skills courses for young people in partnership with the French programme “Inno’Avenir”. CISCO employees were invited by schools to offer basic coding courses such as “coding 4 kids” and seminars on career orientation in the digital economy. CISCO also invites kids to their offices for one-day training experiences on coding and the digital economy; these programmes are designed with a keen eye on the inclusion of girls and breaking gender prejudices in the digital industry. For their previous progress, please see Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.

“Youth Empowered” is Coca-Cola Hellenic Bottling Company (CCHBC)’s new strategic initiative to support 18- to 30-year-olds in achieving their career ambitions and living fuller lives. The programme targets those who are not in education, employment or training (NEETs) and seeks to address persistent underemployment issues in some of CCHBC’s markets. CCHBC aims to support young people’s needs in their transition from school to meaningful employment by helping them build fundamental life and business skills and long-lasting professional and peer networks. The rollout of “Youth Empowered” begins in 2017 through a combination of online engagement, e-learning and in-class sessions in a number of countries, which will be implemented across all CCHBC markets following fine-tuning based on initial learnings.

For a second year Deloitte Poland runs the Business Academy: a series of certified, free-of-charge workshops and open lectures conducted by business practitioners of strategy and technology consulting, taxes, legal advisory, accounting, mathematic modelling, risk assessment, cyber security and more. Since June 2015, there have been 60 workshops with almost 2,000 participants. For many of them participation in these workshops is considered a fast track to start a paid internship. In FY2015/2016 Deloitte hired more than 300 students and recent graduates. Many of them still pursue their studies which is possible due to flexible work arrangements. Deloitte works with all eighteen state universities, four universities of economy and one university of technology. Deloitte representatives also appear as regular lecturers on private colleges like Kozminski University and Cardinal Stefan Wyszynski University. They also run two post-gradual courses: one on User Experience with SWPS University of Social Sciences and Humanities, and one on Corporate Social Responsibility with Kozminski University. This comes from Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.
ENGIE takes part to the “#66miles” programme which is aimed at female employees who want to develop their entrepreneurial side while maintaining their job within the company. This initiative is sponsored by the Paris Pioneers incubator and the Five by Five innovation agency. ENGIE promotes entrepreneurship and soft skills within the Group through its “Matching Energy” campaign which won several awards. ENGIE launched the 2017 apprenticeship campaign in France together with Mozaïk RH, a recruitment agency specialised in diversity, in order to restore equal opportunities. ENGIE started the second edition of its “PEMS” Job Mobility Sport programme, which aims at supporting young girls and boys aged 18 to 24 from deprived areas to engage in apprenticeships. For 6 months, participants are given the opportunity to receive individual coaching, take part in digital workshops, to complete an internship within the company and an immersion period in the French army, to practice a team sport and to be followed by a mentor. This prepares them for the business world, whilst also developing their soft skills and know-how. For their previous progress, please see Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.

Enel Group works together with education through the school-work apprenticeship programme signed with the Italian Ministries of Education and Labour. In 2014, Enel launched the work-study apprenticeship programme with seven technical schools, which involved 140 students. During the school year, the apprentices spent one day a week at the company, focusing especially laboratory and specific skills required. During the summer, the apprentices worked full-time at the company for a hands-on experience. In August 2016, 140 additional students were hired by the Enel Group with a first-level apprenticeship contracts activated at the start of the 2016/2017 school year in seven different Italian regions. Moreover, about 500 traineeships/internships and 1700 entry-level position were activated in the period 2015-2016. ENEL is currently adding two other classes of approximately 40 students in regions of central Italy for the 2017/2018 school year. Enel joined the European Alliance for Apprenticeships and is partnering with a number of organizations such as European Social Partners and IndustriAll Europe to improve VET systems in Europe. For their previous progress, please see Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.

IBM collaborates with Ministries of Education, Schools, Colleges, Universities and NGOs to improve the quality of education and student outcomes across Europe. School classes support teaching and learning in STEM subjects, and the development of employment and career readiness skills. This year we ran 2,700 sessions and reached 61,000 students and 2,500 teachers through 216 education partnerships across Europe. We also provide resources for Teachers including the TeachersTryScience website, and are planning a new programme Teacher Advisor with Watson that uses cognitive technology to support teachers with classroom strategies, initially for maths in primary school. Our focus on Teacher Professional Development includes courses to help teachers in Spain and the UK deliver the new national curriculum on computer science at primary level. Our Apprentice and Interns programmes build skills in IT and computing including newer areas of cognitive, cloud, analytics and security, as well as general business skills. In 2016 we had 500 Apprenticeships, 1800 internships and hired 4,700 young people into entry level jobs. In the UK we started a new degree Apprenticeship, and won the Target Jobs Award. Also in the UK we published Making Education Your Business with the CBI and the Royal Society, a guide to creating partnerships between business and schools and colleges to support STEM teaching, Working with the Flemish Employment service in Belgium - VDAB - we developed a tool that uses analytics to match job seekers to available jobs, reducing the time individuals are unemployed. This is being replicated in other countries. This comes from Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.
One of GE’s main priorities for 2017 and the coming years is empowering young women in tech. One of its programmes in the UK has trained 5000 girls in mechanical, digital and STEM skills in a 5-year course, accredited with University points system. Later down the road, GE is teaming up with Engie, Solvay and Nestlé in cooperation with CSR Europe for a pilot project on the long-term mobility of apprentices. Also, GE’s CEO, Jeff Immelt, announced a new curriculum to train global supply chain employees on skills needed for future manufacturing roles, in which young interns and apprentices were also included. For their previous progress, please see Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.

Between September 2016 and June 2017, Gi Group managed 350 training courses on health and safety procedures in various secondary schools in Lombardy, Italy, to prepare around 7000 students for internships. Gi Group organised “Destination Work” day in Monza, providing orientation for 300 students from secondary school. Through a similar initiative called “Scendiamo in campo per il futuro” (taking the field for the future), Gi Group involved 150 students from mechanical schools, who will complete secondary school next July, and 10 companies for a day of career orientation. In June-July 2017 Gi Group will host 30 students from secondary schools as interns. For their previous progress, please see Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.

Google trained more than 2 million people in Europe and 1 million in Africa in the area of Digital Skills and launched 10,000 scholarships for young people interested in mobile phone application coding skills, in partnership with Udacity and Bertelsmann foundation. For their previous progress, please see Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.

In 2016, Hellenic Petroleum signed an academic partnership agreement with two Greek universities for a minimum of 25 scholarships for MSc and MBA studies in Economics, Energy law, Exploration and Production of Hydrocarbons, and with the National Center for Scientific Research “Demokritos” for funding PhD and Postdoc research on the environmental and safety issues of industrial zones. Recognizing the importance of access to education and employability prospects, Hellenic Petroleum organises skills development seminars on entrepreneurship, marketing and interpersonal communication. Hellenic Petroleum also participates in the international “Hypatia” programme which focuses on stimulating youth’s (aged 13 through 18) interest in, Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) and attracting more girls toward these subjects. Hellenic Petroleum has also given the opportunity for vocational training to more than 1,600 university students since 2010. They further enable young apprentices to develop their skills through the AIESEC programme for internships in foreign countries. For the first time this year, in collaboration with the American Farm School of Thessaloniki, Hellenic Petroleum organised a summer camp for youth aged 6-12 to raise environmental awareness for sustainable living. For their previous progress, please see Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.
In the UK, Hitachi mainly supports primary and secondary schools with digital resources on STEM subjects and is co-developing with teachers, a physics module on nuclear energy. In Anglesey, Wales, the group is investing in the creation of a new Engineering Centre at the local VET School to complement its technical apprenticeship scheme, which has already reached its second year of implementation. Hitachi is also raising awareness and providing counselling on STEM careers through ambassador programmes led by both employees and STEM graduates. In addition, Hitachi’s Financial Systems Department has a long standing 10-day training programme for all of its new employees called “Adventure Kids in the Company” that involves explaining the financial systems profession to sixth-year elementary school students. In July 2016, Hitachi donated a mini excavator to VET school “Bouwschool Breda” in the Netherlands to support the school with practical tutorials and provide 16-25-year-old students with invaluable practical experiences. For their previous progress, please see Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.

Throughout Finland, ISS offers over 300 apprenticeships and on-the-job training experiences in collaboration with a number of educational institutions, engaging students in secondary and tertiary education, as well as adults in lifelong learning programmes. All programmes are designed to enhance labour mobility in Finland but also to offer internal career paths and job opportunities. ISS Finland is also participating in several initiatives that promote the inclusion of asylum seekers. “Startup Refugees”, for instance, offers refugee women short on-the-job learning opportunities, while language and training courses are offered to asylum seekers in partnership with Amiedu, a vocational adult education centre.

In France, McCain launched a new partnership with Enactus to develop entrepreneurial skills with students and incubate concrete action via the launch of social projects. In addition, McCain co-created a Social Business Chair with the Catholic University of Lille, to promote social entrepreneurship skills with students and incubate new social businesses in France. This comes from Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.

Microsoft will increase access to computer science education and digital trainings for 5 million youth across 28 EU member states in the next 2 years. This will be accomplished through a holistic approach that directly empowers both educators and youth. Creative initiatives for educators to engage youth and hack STEM have been developed such as “Minecraft for Education”, “Make Code”, “The Imagine Academy”, “Robotics and Gamification for Girls”. Microsoft has launched 38 STEM pilot schools across Europe to make digital and STEM education a priority for youth; this will help ensure an inclusive future talent pool for the economy. Microsoft is committed to train and build capacity with 160,000 teachers across the EU in the next two years, through the Microsoft Innovative Educator Network which brings 21st century technology skills into the classroom and across academic disciplines. For their previous progress, please see Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.
Nestlé has a long tradition of recruiting young people directly from schools or universities. In 2013, Nestlé launched the “Nestlé needs YOUth” programme to increase the employability of young people in Europe. With this initiative, Nestlé committed to provide 10,000 jobs and 10,000 quality training opportunities for young people by 2016. By the end of 2016, Nestlé had offered 32,000 opportunities (20,000 jobs and 12,000 apprenticeships/traineeships) in, exceeding its initial target of 20,000 in the region. Nestlé will continue its journey and offer 15,000 apprenticeships and traineeships as part of an overall commitment to offer 35,000 work opportunities for young people in Europe, the Middle East and North Africa by 2020. Nestlé has also pioneered dual-learning schemes in countries such as Czech Republic, Italy, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia or Spain where such a tradition did not yet exist or had previously disappeared. Nestlé is an active member of the European Alliance for Apprenticeships and the Global Apprenticeship Network. **For their previous progress, please see Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.**

In 2016, Pirelli continued technical and research cooperation with various universities in Italy, Romania and Germany. Moreover, Pirelli has also developed several partnerships with technical schools, supporting both students and unemployed youth with technical training. In Italy, Pirelli developed a programme to promote business-education partnerships which will see, starting from June 2017, two classrooms from two different high schools participating in a three-year programme intended to provide students with tools and experiences which can help them to choose a future career. **For their previous progress, please see Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.**

In addition to the previous youth programmes such as “Youth@Work“ in The Netherlands, “You’ve got Talent” in Germany and many others, Randstad Czech Republic launched and now manages the Randstad Java Academy. In collaboration with the Tomas Bata University in Zlin, a semester course is now included as part of the curricula for IT students to improve their Java knowledge and experience, resulting in a specific Java certificate recognised on the labour market. **For their previous progress, please see Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.**

Solvay sponsors the Pact for Youth and is a signatory of the European Alliance for Apprenticeships, a platform bringing together multiple stakeholders to strengthen the quality, supply and image of apprenticeships in Europe. In 2016, Solvay started an apprenticeship exchange between Germany and France: the very first apprentice in this programme has been hired in Dombasle (FR) and has been given the opportunity to spend part of his apprenticeship in our Rheinberg plant (DE). Solvay intends to further develop this initiative, thanks to a joint collaboration with other companies (namely Nestlé, Engie, and GE) with the goal of improving the management of international apprenticeship mobility. This engagement of the Group for youth employment, started in 2016, has led to hiring 462 apprentices and 283 interns in France, 160 apprentices in Germany and 77 interns in Belgium. **For their previous progress, please see Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.**
Sonae has a long-lasting partnership with Junior Achievement Portugal (JAP), through which it has streamlined its programmes in schools to develop an entrepreneurial spirit amongst the young generation, enriching their vision and understanding of society and the business world. In the 2016/2017 schoolyear, 167 Sonae volunteers and 1840 students have participated in educational programmes in Portugal. Sonae’s “Call for Solutions” programme is an open innovation initiative that invites master’s finalists to undertake an internship at one of Sonae’s businesses, contributing with innovative ideas and solutions to solve specific challenges. It comprises an internship in which university students develop solutions that will support their master theses. In 2016-2017 Sonae had around 50 students participating in this programme. For their previous progress, please see Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.

With an estimated 50% of its 15,000 employees in Europe under the age of 25, Starbucks remains committed to tackling youth unemployment. Starbucks global “opportunity youth” strategy continues to support young people through local partnerships with specialist NGOs in the markets it serves. The programme aims to upskill, recruit and nurture young people into a fulfilling career. Starbucks’ apprenticeship programme, which is flagship in the UK and France, will see the recruitment of 1500 new apprentices over the next 5 years, while its pre-employment programmes, such as training NEET young people and offering internships, will also be expanded. In line with its mission to offer opportunity for all and to lead in inclusivity and diversity, Starbucks is also committed to hiring refugees, many of whom will be under the age of 25. Starbucks recently joined the Pact for Youth to collaborate with like-minded businesses in the collective quest to reduce youth unemployment.

In 2013 Samsung Electronics launched a large pan-European Digital Skills programme which aims to give young people the digital skills that will make them more employable. By the end of 2016, the programme is expected to have reached 400,000 people through hundreds of direct partnerships with schools, colleges and other education institutions. For a flavour of what we do in these partnerships, please visit our website. This comes from Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.

Telefónica Educación Digital aims to have Digital Education permeate every life learning phase. They start from offering learning platforms to schools and supporting new pedagogical models in the schools. Apart from that, they teach students from 12 – 18 years in STEM subjects and teachers in learning methodologies. This comes from Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.

TITAN Group further strengthened its efforts to support the dialogue with key stakeholders at the national level and engage in partnerships. Having completed a first mapping of the related programmes that are being implemented by the Group in 9 countries, a qualitative assessment of all recorded activities was conducted to verify that emphasis has been given to the implementation of quality internships and apprenticeships. The group’s Integrated Annual Report 2016 included data which reviewed the programmes which target children and young people for the first period of implementation of this initiative. A number of new educational and internship programmes were launched in new countries such as Albania, while other initiatives like “RELOAD Greece”, which address specific issues like the “brain drain”, were included in the group’s commitments. To safeguard the full integration of the objectives of the Pact in TITAN’s CSR strategy, a Quality Internship Guide was developed and is ready to be launched as an Organization Policy. Since it joined the Pact, TITAN has created over 800 traineeships and/or apprenticeships, signed 82 Business-Education partnerships and reached more than 5,000 students and 400 teachers with its activities. For their previous progress, please see Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.
In February 2017 UnipolSai launched its “U4YOUTH” project to select young university students for curricular internships at the main offices of the group’s companies and offer them the opportunity to integrate their university studies with a learning and training experience in a professional environment. A call will be launched twice during 2017 to collect applications from students with different backgrounds coming from universities all over Italy. The project aims at consolidating the partnerships with universities by providing a structured framework for curricular internships.

Please see Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth for previous company-driven progress

Progress from CSR Europe’s member companies

Amgen, through its foundation, reaches teachers throughout Europe with its “Amgen Teach” and “Amgen Biotech Experience” programmes. Through face-to-face training workshops and distance-learning events, the former has already supplied 2,000 educators with the skills to transform the science classroom experience (impacting an estimated 200,000 students). The latter supports the teaching of biology subjects in secondary schools, by providing teacher professional development, research grade equipment on loan, and a molecular biology curriculum. Here, around 170 teachers and 12,000 students have been impacted to date. In addition, 635 undergraduate students have participated in the “Amgen Scholars” programme: a hands-on summer research programme, which provides exposure to medical biotechnology. This comes from Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.

Canon Europe launched a sustainability programme that offers young people opportunities to learn and develop. Initiatives under this programme help students and young people learn more about using imagery by giving them exciting hands-on experiences. From researching and telling a story that inspires them to developing their career by learning from a Canon Ambassador professional photographer, we want to ignite their interest in creative industries and inspire their future career. In 2015 and 2016 initiatives under this programme were held across Europe including in the UK, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Poland, the Netherlands, Italy, Hungary and Turkey. This comes from Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.
In order to create an even bigger societal impact, Nestlé founded the “Alliance for YOUth” in 2014. Over 200 companies are participating, pledging to help young people be better prepared to enter the professional world, and improve their chances in a challenging job market. Since 2014, it has already provided training and jobs for 115,000 young Europeans since 2014. The Alliance will offer 230,000 new work opportunities for young Europeans between 2017 and 2020. More information on both “Nestlé needs YOUth” and the “Alliance for YOUth” are available here. For their previous progress, please see Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.

In early 2017, the STEM Alliance launched a new campaign called “Professionals Go Back to School” to engage company professionals in visiting schools and participate in collaborative activities, in order to close the gap between industry and education sectors and raise pupils and teachers’ awareness of STEM jobs and career paths. To date, over 50 companies and over 500 school have registered. For their previous progress, please see Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.

The EU STEM Coalition is a network of national STEM platforms and European partners that aims to address the increasing demand for STEM competences and the problems related to the skills mismatch by developing and strengthening national STEM platforms. By facilitating the exchange of good practices between existing national platforms and supporting the establishment of new national platforms the networks raises awareness about the crucial role of STEM education in our society and the importance of collaboration among governments, industry and education providers, (the ‘triple helix’) in tackling STEM related issues. This comes from Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.
This section provides some examples of how the objectives and proposed actions of the Pact for Youth can be implemented by the various organisations:

Throughout 2015 and up until October 2016, ANPAL supported through the “FIxO” project, the creation of 322 entry level jobs, most of which originated from the consolidation of apprenticeships and internships. Between October 2016 and March 2017, an additional 176 high-level apprenticeships have been measured, for a total of 498 quality positions. ANPAL is also launching a 4-year programme to provide 1,000 tutors, to be recruited by ANPAL, for 5,000 secondary schools, and 60 tutors for 60 Universities. The aim is to provide students with orientation, counselling and placement services, and to support the schools in building partnerships with enterprises for work-based learning opportunities. The programme has the support of the Italian Ministry of Education.

Ashoka is currently working on the co-development of a strategy to strengthen the supply and demand of change-maker talent. To this end, Ashoka is gathering a global team of influential “change leaders” from business and education. Interviews and regional gatherings are planned to collect ideas and vision for the future and build the common strategy.

The Committee for European Construction Equipment (CECE) fosters the exchange of best practises among its members and plans to avail the European Pact for Youth to attract more young talent to the industry, especially those with technical profiles. CECE promotes the Pact in the monthly members’ bulletin and the Report of Activities, which reaches recipients from across the Europe and beyond.

Thirteen national CSR networks coordinated by CSR Europe have been active in reaching out to 50,000 SMEs across Europe to engage them in apprenticeships via learning networks, capacity building and communication outreach. In the latter part of 2017, 100 SMEs will be taking part in a pilot project, focusing specifically on the quality improvement of apprenticeships. During summer 2017, CSR Europe will launch a new project together with four companies, Nestlé, GE, Engie and Solvay to test a B2B model for long-term apprenticeship mobility (6-12 months). For their previous progress, please see Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.

The Cités des métiers International Network wants to contribute to the objectives and actions set up in the framework of this initiative up to 100 quality guidance-business-training partnerships enabling to offer 1,000 new quality contracts in apprenticeships, traineeships or entry-level jobs for the young people in particular with no or low qualification. Cités des métiers and their partners will be mobilised through the organisation by the end of 2017 of information, animating and counselling actions for the Young people Cités des métiers concerned are in France, Belgium, Switzerland, Italy, Spain and Portugal. It also includes the development of territorial projects funded by the Cités des métiers International endowment fund EFFERVESCENCE or EU programmes. Type of actions considered: profession discovering programme in Europe for the young people, full-size playground for discovering professions by practicing, speed-working between young people, senior and recruiters, competition for the best apprentices, participation into the European Vocational Skills Week. This comes from Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.
**Comité Européen de Coordination** (CEC) and its network plan to utilise the European Pact for Youth supporters, in order to organise more internships and apprenticeships. Moreover, CEC will provide support to companies in order to apply for Calls of Proposals. In Belgium, this relates to a call contributing to occupational integration and employability of marginalised people. At European level, this relates to a call for companies to develop partnerships with formal and non-formal training providers, benefiting especially low-skilled youth. In June, Scuola Centrale Formazione (an Italian CEC member) was present during the Italian presentation of the Pact to explore how to develop business-educational partnerships there. This comes from Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.

DIGITALEUROPE supports the Pact for Youth’s objectives by managing the secretariat of the Digital Skills and Jobs Coalition on behalf of the European Commission. DIGITALEUROPE encourages the creation of National Coalitions and pledges, which are commitments to carry out an action to reduce the digital skills gap in Europe. DIGITALEUROPE promotes the Pact through its network of Corporate members and National Trade Associations. For their previous progress, please see Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.

Don Bosco International organised, in the framework of Vocational and skills Week, a European event on the Italian Dual Training - VET and the partnership between companies and Don Bosco services for employment. In addition, Don Bosco has signed new agreements with companies in several countries such as Italy, Spain, India, South Africa, and Vietnam. Don Bosco also organized a meeting opportunity for Erasmus+ project managers, gathering support for more than 10 new international projects. For their previous progress, please see Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.

Employability Town is a community interest company that helps young people to become “super-employable”. To respond to employers’ needs of soft skills development in young talent, we deliver interactive workshops on soft skills and enterprise mind-set as part of wider curricula within colleges, schools, councils and charities. Employability Town has achieved great success in delivering over 191 thematic and custom-made soft skills workshops across the UK and boosting the soft skills of over 4,850 young people and 945 professionals. For their previous progress, please see Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.

E.R-AMIAT believes that manufacturing enterprises should be more and more involved in training activities dedicated to internal workers and future employees. One of Eramiat’s associates, Poggipolini srl, is already involved in partnerships with schools, public institutions and foundations, in order to develop the new skills related to the fourth industrial revolution and foster employment within the local territory. The project “OF-Opus facere”, at the forefront in Italy, matches market’s needs with educational public and private bodies, contributing thus at the creation and development of the skills of the future. For their previous progress, please see Progress Review November 2015 – May 2016.
Organisation-driven progress

EUROCHAMBRES will support the Pact by building capacity among VET providers and national Chambers through the implementation of the “Apprenticeship coaches for SMEs” (AC4SME) project, which aims at improving Chambers’ capacity to support SMEs in hosting apprentices and raising the quality of their apprenticeships. EUROCHAMBRES is also working on the provision of input to the European Commission on the upcoming “Quality Framework for Apprenticeships”, expected in summer 2017, and is coordinating the implementation of the Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs. EUROCHAMBRES is mobilising its network for the 2nd European vocational skills week in November 2017. EUROCHAMBRES also supported the dissemination of scientific research on the inclusion of vulnerable groups through work-based learning. For their previous progress, please see Progress Review November 2015 – May 2016.

European Schoolnet, through its EUN academy, created and ran a MOOC (Massive Open Online Course) for teachers with the aim of promoting entrepreneurial learning. The MOOC ran from February 27, 2017 to April 12, 2017 and attracted over 1,300 teachers from Europe and beyond. The MOOC is aligned to one of the three pillars of the Pact for Youth, namely to the vision to embed entrepreneurship skills in formal and non-formal education all across Europe. The objective of the MOOC was to support teachers in understanding the importance of fostering a sense of initiative and entrepreneurial mind-set in students and pupils and to bridge the worlds of education and work. For their previous progress, please see Progress Review November 2015 – May 2016.

The European Movement International is a platform where civil society, trade unions, businesses, sectoral interests, academia, political parties and local authorities come together to shape the direction of the European project. It brings together 78 members based in 39 countries and acts as a promoter of active participation of citizens in the decisions that affect them. www.europeanmovement.eu. Support for the Pact for Youth will be integrated in our daily communication efforts to our members and our wider network, which can act as multiplier of the general communication efforts on the Pact for Youth. Our actions in the context of the pact focus on communication, dissemination and encouraging our partners, members and their respective networks to take part and contribute. Furthermore, we will encourage our members to offer more traineeships (starting with new traineeship opportunities at the European Movement International), promote intra-EU mobility, and help students develop their skills, focusing on our members’ existing educational youth programmes. This comes from Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.

As Chair of the Societal Changes Working Group within the European Round Table of Industrialists (ERT), Jean-Pierre Clamadieu (CEO of Solvay) is popularising the Pact among Europe’s 50 largest companies towards new action and collaboration. This is also in line with ERT’s recommendations to tackle youth unemployment. This comes from Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.

The Chief Innovation Officer (and co-founder) of Improve Digital, Janneke Niessen, is a strong advocate for science, entrepreneurship and digital education. To address the gender imbalance in STEM fields she started Inspiring Fifty and launched Project Prep. Inspiring Fifty is a non-profit initiative that aims to increase gender diversity in the tech sector. We identify and showcase inspiring women in leadership positions in technology. These women serve as role models and encourage more girls and women to choose for a career in tech. Project Prep is a book directed at young girls to make them curious and excited about STEM subjects. The novel has a true female role model in entrepreneurship and technology. The book was first written in Dutch but has already been published in Sweden and translated into English, with more translations to follow. This comes from Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.
Organisation-driven progress

**Italia Lavoro** is the Technical Agency of the Italian Welfare Ministry. It manages activities to achieve employment and social inclusion policies. Through the “FìxO” programme, IL sponsors and provides support to education and training institutions focusing on youth employment; its main aim is to foster “from-education-to-work” transition. Since 2015 FìxO has involved 750 schools and 75 universities in developing career services, connections with the labour market, training teachers and other staff on vocational guidance, promoting traineeships and apprenticeship contracts. In next months, until 31 March 2017, we plan to develop education/work paths in 750 schools; 300 apprenticeships in higher education (Universities and ITS); and experimentation of apprenticeships in VET paths involving 300 training centres. In the context of the Youth Guarantee Initiative we are partners with schools and universities in reaching 1300 traineehips and 4000 Entry level jobs. *This comes from Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.*

The European Youth Card Association (EYCA) brings together 38 organisations that issue the European Youth Card to over 6 million young people in 36 countries. The card helps young people kick-start their careers through paid internship schemes, educational programmes, and discounts that support their mobility. For example, the “Mobility in the Mind” project saw 20 young innovators bring their business ideas to life, creating business plans and receiving advice and support from top professionals.

JA Europe supports the continuous activity of the European Entrepreneurship Education Network (EE-HUB), which collected over 50 policy recommendations and over 60 good practices, with the support of experts and 24 MEP Ambassadors. The first national EE-HUB in Italy was launched in partnership with companies, NGOs and the Ministry of Education. Six more national EE-HUBs will begin in Central and Eastern Europe. In May, EE-HUB launched the “Switch On Europe” campaign to raise awareness of the lack of entrepreneurship education in Europe. JA’s “Entrepreneurial Skills Pass” has engaged 250 companies in student mentoring. In total, over 30,000 students are registered for the 2016/2017 schoolyear across 29 countries. JA Europe is also supporting the Entrepreneurship Education national action plans: JA Europe is a strategic partner in 11 countries with a national plan for EE, while its programmes are integrated in the curriculum in another 11 countries. In addition, JA Europe’s programmes are recommended/endorsed by the respective ministries in another 4 countries. *For their previous progress, please see Progress Review November 2015 – May 2016.*

The European Youth Forum, together with supporting organisations of the Pact for Youth, is working on an infographic on apprenticeships. The infographic will be a youth-friendly visual tool to promote the attractiveness of apprenticeships and showcase why and how they work best for all stakeholders involved—putting the learner first. Watch this space to find out how to contribute. *This comes from Progress Review November 2015 – May 2016.*

Global Apprenticeships Network (GAN) has a partnership with the Bertelsmann Foundation focussing on quality dual VET systems in Spain, and is in the process of initiating one with DIGITALEUROPE to help attract more youth to ICT careers under the eSkills for Jobs Campaign 2015-2016. Currently, together with the European Youth Forum, they are working on the handbook for Apprenticeships for all. *This comes from Progress Review November 2015 – May 2016.*
Building upon the initial proposal of the Jacques Delors Institute, Pascal Lamy hosted together with Viscount Etienne Davignon and MEP Jean Arthuis as well as representatives from Engie, Solvay, Bertelsmann Foundation and Nestlé, the coarchitects in meeting Paris to identify the core elements for a joint proposal to boost the youth transition to jobs with the view to make VET and apprenticeships an equal choice for youth in Europe. This comes from Progress Review November 2015 – May 2016.

The Lifelong Learning Platform (LLL-P) promotes the European Pact for Youth in the LLL-P bi-monthly newsletter, which has more than 8,000 recipients across Europe and broader. LLL-P encourages exchange of best practices and research results among its members, particularly its members who are working in the field of VET. This comes from Progress Review November 2015 – May 2016.

The European umbrella for VET provider networks, VET4EU2, is represented by EfVET in the European pact for Youth. The network ensures that latest EU tools (ECVET, EQAVET) are applied by its partner organisations and that they move considerably forward in validating and recognising non-formal education. Within the coming years EfVET shall ensure that the majority of its member organisations apply learning outcome principles (ECVET) not only in VET providing, but also in organising work placements and apprenticeships. This comes from Progress Review November 2015 – May 2016.

JADE is the European Confederation of Junior Enterprises, company-like structures entirely managed by university students that provide services to companies and third party organisations. The Junior Enterprises allow to bridge the gap between education and the job market: gathering over 20,000 students in 14 countries in Europe, the Junior Enterprises allow students to acquire entrepreneurial skill in the management of their organisations as the entire management team of the JEs is elected among the members of the organisation as and also acquire hard skills in developing the projects for their customers. This comes from Progress Review November 2015 – May 2016.

STEM Education organises national robotics contests to highlight skills in robotics, science and mathematics. It also designs and presents STEM educational programmes in public schools and educational facilities over the country to increase STEM quality in Greece. This comes from Progress Review November 2015 – May 2016.
The non-profit association **Science on Stage Europe** (SonSEu) provides a unique network for STEM teachers from primary to secondary schools to exchange teaching concepts and to share ideas. It reaches about 100,000 STEM teachers and teacher trainers in 30 countries. SonSEu promotes the quality of STEM education and teachers’ professional development through its unique approach “from teachers for teachers”, and work with Europe’s biggest educational festivals, cross-border collaborations, and production of multilingual teaching material developed by teachers for teachers and international teacher trainings. For their previous progress, please see Progress Review November 2015 – May 2016.

**PLANit Global** is an online careers exploration and engagement platform connecting local businesses and young people with over 60 business subscribers profiling their business and job roles, giving young people the ability to compare over 250 vocations at a click. Fifty schools, colleges and universities are now engaged in using PLANit Global, creating an audience of over 40,000 young people. PLANit Global is now accessible on mobile phones, tablets and laptops, making career exploration and learning about the world of work possible anywhere at any time and providing businesses with the opportunity to reach their future workforce and engage with young people. PLANit Global has provided internships to 12 students from EU countries and now employs three of those students – one of whom will become the Chief Operating Officer. The company continues to offer internships to students from different countries through the Erasmus programme and will shortly be welcoming the first group of apprentices to the business. PLANit Global will be launching in Bahrain later this summer and in Belgium by the end of the year. For their previous progress, please see Progress Review November 2015 – May 2016.

It is through their digital collaboration platform that **ME2WE**, a recent signatory of the Pact, links young talents and companies and help them to collaborate through university courses, projects, internships, thesis and jobs. Currently they collaborate with all the main stakeholders when it comes to youth, education and business: from Ministries to student unions and rectors networks. At the moment they collaborate with stakeholders from five European countries.

**Tracé Brussel**, together with social partners and public employment services, organised and will organise more “Jump2Work” workshops. During those workshops students are informed about the transition from school to the labour market. During the school year 2015-2016 676 students in their last year secondary education followed 172 workshops. Of those 172 workshops 35 of them were company visits. This year (2016-2017) we will continue to organise “Jump2Work” workshops. Together with BECI (Brussels Enterprises Commerce & Industry) we will organize an “internship networking event” in Brussels on Tuesday, October 11, 2016. This event wants to bring the world of education and the world of work closer together and facilitate the search and placement of trainees. For this event we invite 150 employers, school directors and teachers. For their previous progress, please see Progress Review November 2015 – May 2016.

Please see Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth for previous organisation-driven progress.
6. Progress from national business networks

This section provides some examples of how the objectives and proposed actions of the Pact for Youth can be implemented by the various national partners:

**Belgium, The Shift - 334 members**

Innovative partnerships are core to The Shift’s activities. Three main topics in the Shift are entrepreneurship, technical jobs and improvement of recruitment processes in companies. The Shift facilitates cooperation between three organisations to train young people and provide them with job opportunities through training in “Rising Youth” (targets young refugees with climbing courses and gives skills to work in high altitude jobs), coaching in “Duo for a Job” (innovative coaching done by 55+ professionals to refugees) and funding in “Microstart” (Belgian micro funds for young entrepreneurs). Keeping with the local focus, the Shift co-organises the “Discover your talent” career day for youth in the underprivileged neighbourhood of Anderlecht in cooperation Nestle, Accenture, Freshfield Bruckhaus Deringer, Securex. Furthermore, there are a number of young, local leaders within the Generation T project working on promoting quality education, creating good jobs, eradicating poverty, and reducing inequalities. At the national level, the Belgian symposium on the synergies between education and business world, organised by the King and with the Ministry of Education and Training on May 25, will highlight the need for more quality VET and apprenticeships. Further discussions will be held on actions supporting the Pact through innovative business education partnerships with companies and other stakeholders on December 5. This comes from Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.

**Czech Republic, BLF Czech - 19 members**

BLF Czech contributes to the Pact for Youth through a number projects. BLF Czech is a part of the Be-Happy project (enhancing apprenticeships in SMEs) coordinated by CSR Europe. Other projects include mentoring for new teachers, which also covers helping experienced teachers become talented mentors, so that they can support their colleagues in their professional and personal development, “manager shadowing” project where students are presented with an opportunity to do a ten-day internship in a reputable firm and the “Junior Lean In” that offers young women advice at the start of their career. This comes from Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.

**Bulgaria, UNGC Bulgaria - 25 members**

Currently we are preparing the fourth, enriched edition of the ‘Proud with my Parents’ Work’ Programme. The programme’s goals are in line with and promote further the Pact for Youth’s ideas and fall under Sustainable Development Goal 4 on ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education.

In short, the programme helps children understand the role of labour as both a necessity and value, by enabling them to follow the work of their parents in the workplace. Some of biggest socially responsible companies in the country take part in the initiative. The programme provides young people the opportunity of career-orientation by inspiring them to first make a responsible choice of a profession and only then to consider where and how can they prepare career-wise.

The culmination and the second part of the initiative is the Bazaar of Professions. Last year hundreds of pupils, teachers, and parents visited the fair and took part in the presentations of various professions and career orientation workshops. This year the special career expo will be bigger and will last two days so that more children and youngsters can visit. The Bazaar will take place on November 25 - 26, 2016, with free access for children, youngsters, their parents and teachers. Different professions will be presented in a universal and structured way, alongside with lectures on career and personal development. This comes from Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.
France, IMS France, 250 members

IMS France has been very active with the Minister of Education to put together the French National Action Plan and they organise workshops and conferences on the Pact for Youth regularly. Currently IMS France is working on a communication strategy to deliver more information about the Pact for Youth to the French audience. They continue working on three big projects; their innovation and employment programme the “Innov@venir”, the “Un Jour, Un Métier” programme that expands vocational guidance for disadvantaged schoolchildren and the “Déployons nos Elles” that fights against gender stereotypes in working life. This comes from Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.

France, FACE, 47 members

In July 2016, the FACE Foundation has taken on leadership of the Pact for Youth in France. In collaboration with its national partners, the Foundation has defined the thematic priorities of the Pact in France that will be further defined in concrete objectives within the National Action Plan (NAP). Several projects of the Foundation such as “TEKNIK” – a programme promoting industrial and technical professions to high school students through interventions in class of companies’ employees - and “Wi-filles” – a project focused on the orientation of young girls towards digital professions – fall within the framework of the Pact for Youth and already represent a great example of the concretisation of the national priorities.

Moreover, the NAP will devote specific attention to the development of quality apprenticeships in line with the mission of our President Gérard Mestrallet who was appointed Ambassador of Apprenticeships by the French government in 2015. Finally, FACE is currently working on the communication strategy of the Pact and on the three priorities of the NAP: career orientation, training and professional integration. Four key stakeholders have been involved in the preparation of the NAP that will be delivered in October 2017: public actors, the private sector, NGOs, and actors from the education sphere.

Greece, CSR Hellas - 129 Members

CSR Hellas has organized a series of activities and events aimed at raising awareness on the Pact for Youth and its different initiatives among the Greek business community and other stakeholders involved in the preparation of a the National Action Plan, including proposals for collaborations, legislative matters, and boosting youth employment and entrepreneurship.

CHS Hellas also set up a task force, composed mainly of representatives of the companies, who are initiators of the Pact in Greece, to collect and evaluate best practices the two topics of internships, and initiatives promoting youth entrepreneurship.

In January 2017, CSR Hellas joined the “EUTalent” project on apprenticeships. A new initiative called “GEFYRA1” (Greek Enterprises For Youth Reinforcement Acceleration) was designed to combine the goals for both the Pact for Youth and EU Talent. “GEFYRA” is planned to start in October 2017 as an 18 months pilot project with the aim to create at least 3,000 quality jobs in the three areas of the Pact (apprenticeships, internships, and entry level jobs) through 150 partnerships and 10 dissemination and communication activities.

Between January and May 2017, CSR Hellas has organized meetings with various stakeholders such as the Ministry of Education, the National Manpower Organisation and the Athens Chamber of Small and Medium industries (ACSMI) to promote the Pact for Youth and “EUTalent”, and to enhance the policy framework for apprenticeships. Similar meetings have been scheduled with the Ministry of Employment, various professional bodies and NGOs. For their previous progress, please see Progress Review November 2015 – May 2016.
Ireland, BITC Ireland - 60 members

BITCI met Junior Achievement (JA) Ireland to update one another on respective organisations that support school-business partnerships and engagements and also agreed to work together to support the Pact for Youth. BITCI and JA will create a shared data pool so that a mapping can be easily completed.

The Irish CSR Forum, which is leading the Pact for Youth National Action Plan for Ireland, is currently rallying support from BITCI and other stakeholders for the endeavour. The draft is to be expected by the end of July. Meanwhile, the second issue of the Ireland’s National CSR Plan is in the drafting stage and will be launched June 24th; it is envisaged for the Pact for Youth to be part of that new plan. For their previous progress, please see Progress Review November 2015 – May 2016.

Sodalitas Foundation and Impronta Etica - 128 Members

Fondazione Sodalitas and Impronta Etica teamed up to build a National Action Plan of the European Pact for Youth. In October 2016, 36 companies and 10 supporting organization (including employers’ federations and education providers) join the national network of the Pact. The National Action Plan received a full endorsement from the Ministry of Labour and from the Ministry of Education during a public event on October 5, in which the National Action Plan was officially launched. The Pact is also supported by Italialavoro, a technical agency of the Ministry of Labour.

The priorities of the Pact for Youth in Italy are:

- Boosting the partnership between secondary schools and businesses in the framework of the Education Reform “La Buona Scuola”, (group leaders: Fondazione Sodalitas and Impronta Etica)
- Establish a national branch of the European Hub on Entrepreneurship Education, to collect and scale up entrepreneurship education models (group leader Junior Achievement Italy)
- Promote VET Education and the new apprenticeship model, according to the national reform “Jobs Act” (group leader: Enel).

Monitoring experiences and measuring impacts, finding the business case for job based education, and scaling up best practices are the common goals of the three work streams, that started their activities in September. This comes from Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.

Malta, CORE Platform - 12 members

The Core Platform is currently working on their National Action Plan. In 2016 they were in touch with the Maltese government to find opportunities to work together and have looked for partners in schools, cities and SMEs. The CORE Platform has also worked with local councils to establish actions to reduce skills gaps. Furthermore the Platform is currently looking for ways to be a leader in promoting STEAM skills and gender imbalance. This comes from Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.
Portugal, Grace - 138 members

GRACE is hosting the Uni.Network project to link business and academia to promote closer ties between the business world and universities. Its mission includes helping young academics enter working life. The project entails the GRACE Academy, which aims to develop academic projects on a topic of Corporate Social Responsibility and aims to reward the best authors with the opportunity to have a professional experience in a GRACE associate company. This comes from Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.

Spain, Forética – 240 members

On November 4, Forética launched the European Pact for Youth at national level in Spain. For this launch, Forética officially engaged with 13 regional government authorities in Andalucía, Aragón, Asturias, Cantabria, Castilla y León, Extremadura, Galicia, Islas Baleares, La Rioja, Madrid, Murcia, Tenerife and Valencia. These twelve entities have become, alongside the Ministry of Employment, “institutional partners” of the campaign and are helping to promote the Pact and the wider Enterprise 2020 agenda across Spain through local networks, businesses and associations. At the launch, they also presented over 50 best practice examples of how business engages with education.

Last July, the European Pact for Youth was formally presented in Palma de Mallorca at the inaugural meeting of the Balearic Island’s CSR Council and the Pact was adopted as one of the first initiates that this recently created multi stakeholder platform will endeavour to support. In parallel, Forética is calling on all companies to submit their best practices for the launch event of the Pact as well as promoting the European project Deploy your Talents on STEM awareness in schools in Madrid and Barcelona. This comes from Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.

Serbia, Responsible Business Forum Serbia – 30 members

Responsible Business Forum Serbia (RBF) organised a Pact for Youth Conference on September 19, 2016, in partnership with the Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction Unit of the Government of the Republic of Serbia and the Belgrade Open School. The main focus of the conference was strengthening the partnerships for employability and social inclusion of youth, by sharing models, good practices, and regional experiences. A complementary brochure on the Pact for Youth in Serbia was also published, detailing how to join the initiative, and presenting – through key actors and good practice examples of cooperation and projects – how companies are contributing to the employability and social inclusion of youth.

This September, a multi-stakeholder meeting bringing together business, government, educational institutions and civil society representatives will collect further input from various stakeholders about the possible ways to advance the current practices and further enhancement of the employability of the youth in Serbia. The results will serve as a basis for the National Action Plan for Serbia, to be published in November 2017.
Kosovo, CSR Kosovo - 27 members

CSR Kosovo is working on their National Action Plan. In 2016 CSR Kosovo reached out to business leaders to work as mentors for new start-ups, an idea that has been very well received by the donor community, the public sector and also their members. The project “The Kosovo School for Entrepreneurship” launched in September 2016 is an extensive programme of education on entrepreneurship, business management, marketing, finance and other skills provided both to University students and graduates. This is especially targeted to those from disadvantaged communities with the opportunity to develop necessary skills and knowledge required to create a business and manage its daily operations. Linked to this project, CSR Kosovo is also negotiating with the government, loan guarantees for future start-ups. Most recently, CSR Kosovo established the “Champion of Youth” award and will organise the award ceremony during the launch of the Pact for Youth in Albania, with CSR Albania.*The European Pact for Youth has already been translated into the local language and adapted the Pact targets to local context. This comes from Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.

Ukraine, CSR Ukraine – 41 members

Since joining the Pact for Youth in March 2016, CSR Ukraine mobilized 51 companies and local organisations to develop the Pact at the national level. The Ukrainian Pact for Youth set up the targets of supporting the creation of 300 business-education partnerships and 10,000 quality placements between apprenticeships, traineeships, and entry-level positions. So far, 106 business-education partnerships have been established and some 5,500 positions have been created. CSR Ukraine organises an array of activities to support the Pact at the national level, such as: monthly meetings for Pact supporters; the “Skills for Ukraine 2030: business view” research, in which companies and young professionals were surveyed to identify the essential skills looked-for in business: the “Business youth: wow effect from cooperation” forum, which holds workshops for companies and young people with the aim of improving the quality of traineeships, and the “The best partnership business-university” award, which collects and rewards best practices in business-education partnerships. For their previous progress, please see Progress Review November 2015 – May 2016.

Sweden, CSR Sweden – 20 members

Following the April 2016 General Assembly that informed all its members of the Pact for Youth, CSR Sweden initiated a stakeholder dialogue – together with its primary partner, Fryshuset – to identify target groups and strategies to raise awareness on the Pact and continuously expand the network of partnerships with local and international organizations that are currently implementing projects that fall within the scope of the Pact. In 2017, CSR Sweden is going to further expand the communication on the Pact at both the Almedalen and Järva Politikervecka summer forums.

Later down the road, CSR Sweden will reach out to governmental, business and civil society stakeholders to gather input that will be translated in a National Action Plan for Sweden.

Please see Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth for previous National Partner Organisation-driven progress
China, GoldenBeeCSR2020

GoldenBeeCSR2020 (the largest Chinese network on CSR) will hold a plenary on “Youth is Our Future” at the 11th International Conference on CSR for companies in China to explore, together with education and governments, how to enhance the future skills needs, very much in line with the objectives and proposed actions in the European Pact for Youth. This comes from Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.

South Africa

The European Commission, together with CSR Europe, through IBM and Engie, will present the Pact to a broad audience of businesses, governments, education, and diplomatic players. They plan to join an exciting agenda titled “Life skills development for youth social inclusion and employability” on 17 May. With youth making up to 66% of the population and with a youth unemployment rate of 49%, the EU Delegation to South Africa is keen to identify those approaches developed in Europe that are potentially of great interest to South African stakeholders. This comes from Progress Review: One Year of the Pact for Youth.
8. Communications

Social media November 2015 - July 2017

10,980,950 Total exposure (including retweets) of #Pact4Youth
Exposure is the number of overall impressions generated by tweets in this report – the total number of times tweets were delivered to timelines (including repeats). Conservative estimate.

2,164,430 people reached through original tweets containing #Pact4Youth (not retweets). Conservative estimate - software tracks 100 tweets per two week period, in some two week periods there were more than 100 tweets.

Communications guide for National Partner Organisations
This guide is designed to help CSR Europe’s national partners communicate about the Pact for Youth. It includes tips and example posts for social media.

European Pact for Youth Engagement guide
This document explains how to engage in the European Pact for Youth.
9. Who supports the Pact for Youth?

Under the High Patronage of His Majesty the King of the Belgians

With the high level support of:

Martin Schulz, President of the European Parliament
Donald Tusk, President of the European Council
Jean-Claude Juncker, President of the European Commission

Chairs

Marianne Thyssen, European Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility and
Viscount Etienne Davignon, Minister of State and President of CSR Europe

They co-chair a Leaders Group that provides strategic direction and steers the Pact towards its objectives. They are supported by a Group of Sherpas from the European Commission, business, education and youth.

Supporting companies

Supporting organisations

CSR Europe’s national partners

Members of the European Parliament

Jean Arthuis, ALDE
Eva Maydell, EPP
Maria Joao Rodrigues, S&D
Rainer Wieland, EPP
Sabine Verheyen, EPP