

Bulgaria: Reforming the existing and designing of new measures for activating
inactive persons and their inclusion in the labour market in Bulgaria
REFORM/IM2020/004

Innovative ways to finance and deliver ALMPs

Virtual Workshop

11 May, 2021

Background to the project

Bulgaria's labour market has seen strong employment growth over the past decade. Nevertheless, some challenges remain. More than half of the unemployed were long-term unemployed in 2018 and nearly 1.2 million individuals in the working-age population (aged from 15 to 64 years) were inactive. In addition, not all groups benefited from the positive labour market developments. Against this background it is important to assess the effectiveness of existing measures for inactive persons and provide recommendations on how to improve the targeting and the efficacy of active labour market policies (ALMPs). To assist Bulgaria in the design and implementation of policies to improve the labour market integration of inactive persons, the OECD and the European Commission's Directorate-General for Structural Reform Support are providing Bulgaria with technical support through the project "[Reforming the Existing and Designing of New Measures for Activating Inactive Persons and their Inclusion in the Labour Market in Bulgaria](#)".

As one output of this broader project the OECD provided Bulgaria with four short research notes on innovative ways to finance and deliver ALMPs. The purpose of this workshop was to deliver presentations and discuss the findings within a Bulgarian context for two of these research notes. The first presentation looked at contracted-out employment services while the second presentation looked at social impact bonds. The second two research notes – on [New ways to reach out to employers and Public Private Partnerships](#) – were presented on 21 September.

In addition to the OECD and European Commission, participants attended from Bulgaria's National Employment Agency (NEA), the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy (MLSP) and the Ministry of Finance.

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Agenda: 11 May – Contracted-out employment services, and Social Impact Bonds.

Bold times refer to Sofia time (time in brackets Brussels/Paris)

PART I	
OPENING OF WORKSHOP	
10:30-10:45 (09:30-09:45)	Welcome Anna Delibasheva - NEA moderator, opens the event and announces the agenda Kristine Langenbucher (OECD) gives a short overview of the project Welcome by Elisa Gomez-Aleman from the European Commission DG REFORM
PART II	
NEA MODERATOR INTRODUCES PRESENTATIONS	
10:45-11:05 (09:45-10:05)	<u>Contracted-out employment services</u> Presentation by Kristine Langenbucher (OECD)
11:05-11:35 (10:05-10:35)	Discussion with all participants (NEA, MLSP, Ministry of Finance)
11:35-11:55 (10:35-10:55)	<u>Social Impact Bonds</u> Presentation by Marius Lüske (OECD)
11:55-12:25 (10:55-11:25)	Discussion with all participants (NEA, MLSP, Ministry of Finance)
12:25-12:30 (11:25-11:30)	Closing by Anna Delibasheva (NEA)