Fit for Europe

**Project - TPI121** ([https://ec.europa.eu/esf/transnationality/TPI-121](https://ec.europa.eu/esf/transnationality/TPI-121))

**Country of submission:**

Germany (DE)

**Call for projects - Proxy:**

DE incl IdA - ESF Integration Guidelines of the Federal Government

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**Title in the national language:**

Fit for Europe

**Acronym or short denomination:**

Fit for Europe

**Project lead organisation:**

Überlingen Academy [1]

**Languages spoken by the project team:**

- de
- en

**Themes:**

- Employability and labour integration
- Youth employment
- NEETs
- Recent graduates
- Combating/addressing early school leaving
- Vocational Education and Training
- New skills for new jobs

**Project Idea summary:**

Fit for Europe is a project within the IdA Programme (Integration through Exchange) that gives disadvantaged young people the opportunity to acquire new skills through an internship abroad. The project works with early school leavers, drop outs, participants with handicaps, single mums, or graduates with special difficulties, to help them find employment and gain personal as well as professional skills.

The Akademie Überlingen offers work placements of up to nine weeks for host groups in various fields, from tourism and gastronomy to IT and administration, in the city of Wernigerode and the
Harz region.

**Problem addressed:**

The project aims to address the problem of youth unemployment, by helping young disadvantaged or disabled people gain skills that will facilitate their integration into the labour market.

**Objectives:**

Apart from the increase in personal, social competences and professional skills, participants return from abroad with a clearer vision of their future goals and a real willingness to work towards them. They make active efforts to apply for a job or start vocational training, they show more initiative and feel empowered to make a difference in their lives. Over 60 % have found a job or started a vocational training after participating in IdA.

**Experience and facilities available:**

We offer work placements in many fields such as tourism, gastronomy, metal- and wood industry, bakers, butchers, IT, administration, childcare, elderly people care, nursing, housekeeping etc. We have several accommodation options- for example: youth hostels, guest houses and holiday homes/ hotels.

Our staff have many years of experience in European projects, we offer a welfare service and are also able to host participants with handicaps. We can arrange language training, airport transfers, cultural trips and activities to support team building and to get to know the city of Wernigerode and the Harz region.

**Expected partners and their roles:**

We work with a number of partners within Germany, including:

- Job centres
- Employment agencies
- VET provider schools
- Local authorities and municipalities
- Higher education institutions
- Enterprises
- Social partners and other representative bodies linked to the labour market, including chamber of commerce and other trade associations,
- Guidance, consultancy and information services linked to lifelong learning,
- NGOs, third sector, voluntary and non-profit organizations.

**Activities:**

Training and education

Mobility of trainees and other beneficiaries – receiving

**Target groups:**

- Unemployed
- Women
- Young people (under 25 years old)
- Persons with mental or physical disabilities

**End date of transnational activity:**

Tuesday, 31 July, 2018

**Project lead contact details:**

Überlingen Academy