

## **Educational material for advancing youth cooperative skills. The case of the project “YOUTHShare”**

**Savas Pavlidis<sup>1</sup>, Karolos Iosif Kavoulakos<sup>2</sup>, Kostas Nikolaou<sup>3</sup> and Stelios Gialis<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> *University of Aegean*

<sup>2</sup> *Aristotle University of Thessaloniki*

<sup>3</sup> *People’s University of Social Solidarity Economy “UnivSSE Coop”*

Drawing on the case of [YOUTHShare](#), an EEA Grants-funded project that seeks to actively analyze and tackle youth disengagement in the EU South, this presentation will focus on the educational material developed in order to advance youth’s cooperative skills and knowledge. The presentation brings to front the challenges faced during the development of the educational material on Skills in Social Economy, which included an Educators Manual and four Trainees’ Handbooks (in English, Greek, Spanish and Italian). The material was integrated in an [e-learning platform](#) and publicly available and free of any charge.

The Manual and Handbooks developed are organized in ten sessions and divided into three modules:

Module A: Fundamentals of social solidarity economy (SSE). Session 1: Introducing social and solidarity economy (SSE); Session 2: Working with cooperative principles; Session 3: SSE legislation and rules

Module B: Establishment and operation of an SSE entity. Session 4: Choosing legal and economic field; Session 5: Establishment procedures and strategic planning; Session 6: The founding team; Session 7: SSE management and governance

Module C: Economic and social aspects. Session 8: SSE Funding; Session 9: Social business plan and social impact; Session 10: Social franchising.

Overall, the aim of the educational material and the project is to reduce youth unemployment in coastal and island regions of the Mediterranean EEA by advancing young NEETs skills in trans-locally resilient agri-food production and the pertinent circular economies. By boosting the potential of those sectors, through social entrepreneurship and sharing economy platforms, it aims to reduce economic disparities in the target area.