



TSUNAMI

A Traineeship as a Springboard out of UNemployment for those Affected by Mental Illness

MONTHLY REPORT

January 2018

The TSUNAMI project aims to provide solid evidence on the effectiveness of an active labour market policy targeted at unemployed with mental illness. People participating in TSUNAMI are provided with a complex series of services, which last up to 11 months, mainly based on job coaching and the activation of internships. In order to estimate the impact of the intervention we conduct a randomized controlled trial in Piemonte region, in the north west of Italy. The potential beneficiaries (unemployed enrolling at regional Public Employment Service offices) are randomly split in a treated group and a control group. Impact estimates will be yielded comparing the employment outcomes of the two groups. The project will be active between 2017 and 2019 and should involve about 1.200 people.

The inflow of potential beneficiaries

The RCT is based on sites randomization: the region is divided in 31 sites, each one managed by a different PES office (except the city of Torino, which have only one PES office and has been divided in two equal parts). Every site has been randomly assigned to one group. Following calculations on previous cohorts, the two groups would be expected to have similar size, characteristics and expected outcome. Moreover, we expect to have every month 60 potential beneficiaries to be split in the two groups. Table 1 and Table 2 illustrates size and main characteristics of the groups as of November 2017.

Table 1. Unemployed enrolled at PES offices
November 2016 – November 2017

Experimental group		Control group	
Site	N	Site	N
Alba	52	Acqui Terme	9
Asti	34	Alessandria	24
Borgosesia	10	Biella	17
Casale Monferrato	16	Borgomanero	33
Chivasso	13	Chieri	12
Ciriè	14	Cuneo	32
Ivrea	10	Cuorgnè	6
Novara	35	Fossano	23
Novi ligure	2	Moncalieri	39
Orbassano	19	Mondovì	7
Rivoli	39	Omegna	13
Saluzzo	12	Pinerolo	21
Torino nord	163	Settimo Torinese	11
Tortona	21	Susa	14
Vercelli	22	Torino sud	106
		Venaria	10
Total	462	Total	377

Table 2. Main characteristics of the groups

	Experimental group	Control group
Age (avg)	38,7	39,1
Foreign born	7%	3%
Women	43%	42%
High school degree	33%	35%
Reduced work capability* (avg)	67%	70%
Having multiple disabilities	52%	50%

*The “reduced work capability” rate varies between 0% and 100%. Unemployed with a certified disability must have a reduced work capability of at least 46%.

Who really participates?

Unemployed belonging to the experimental group are contacted by the job coaches and are offered to participate in the project. As of November 2017, the take up rate is 52%. 241 people have accepted the offer to participate. For 13 of them the intervention is temporarily suspended, mainly pending the provision of the “functioning diagnosis”. The “functioning diagnosis” is a necessary document for the activation of a traineeship. Another 144 participants have dropped out before completing their pathway. As regards non participation, the main reasons are summarized in Table 3.

Table 3. Participation status of eligible unemployed

Participants	241
Ongoing	84
Suspended	13
<i>Functioning diagnosis pending</i>	8
<i>Suspended for personal reasons</i>	5
Drop out	144
Non participants	221
Already employed/doing a traineeship	25
Engaged in other activities	6
Not employable	43
Not interested	90
Other reasons	57
Total	462

The individual pathways

For those accepting to participate, the intervention is divided in four subsequent phases, from the welcoming phase to the support to job search, and can last between 3 and 11 months. The main phase is the traineeship, which should last between 3 and 6 months. Since people are taken in charge a few days after the enrolment at PES office (except for people enrolling in the very first months, for whom the intervention has begun on March), the current status varies from cohort to cohort. Table 4 summarizes the intervention phase in which people from different cohorts are currently involved.

Table 4. Current phase of the intervention, by cohort

Enrollment month	Start date	Current phase
Nov 2016	13/03/2017	4 - Support to job search
Dec 2016	13/03/2017	4 - Support to job search
Jan 2017	13/03/2017	4 - Support to job search
Feb 2017	13/03/2017	4 - Support to job search
Mar 2017	12/04/2017	4 - Support to job search
Apr 2017	04/05/2017	4 - Support to job search
May 2017	05/06/2017	3 - Traineeship and tutoring
Jun 2017	06/07/2017	3 - Traineeship and tutoring
Jul 2017	05/09/2017	3 - Traineeship and tutoring
Aug 2017	05/09/2017	3 - Traineeship and tutoring
Sep 2017	05/10/2017	3 - Traineeship and tutoring
Oct 2017	08/11/2017	3 - Traineeship and tutoring
Nov 2017	11/12/2017	2 - Employability empowerment