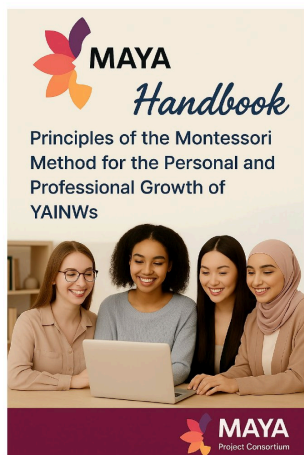


WP2 · Studies and programmes: listening before designing

Before designing anything, MAYA listened. Research in four countries explored what holds young NEET women back and what helps them move forward, and laid the evidence base for the MAYA Handbook.



Evidence from four countries

Under WP2, led by Canik Public Education Centre, partners in Türkiye, Austria, Portugal and Italy surveyed young adult NEET women and the professionals who work with them, documented national examples of good practice and reviewed the literature on Montessori approaches in adult and professional learning.

The findings were analysed country by country, then compared and brought together in national reports and in the MAYA Handbook, published in five languages.

103

NEET women
surveyed

84

professionals
surveyed

13

literature
reviews

9

national
case studies

How the research was done

Common tools

The same core questionnaires and templates were used in all four countries.

Surveys

Questionnaires for young NEET women and for the professionals who support them.

Case studies and literature

Good practices from each country and reviews of Montessori-based adult learning.

National reports

Country analyses that were compared and brought together at transnational level.

Who took part

Young NEET women surveyed



Professionals surveyed



What the research showed

The research showed that the barriers faced by young NEET women cannot be explained by vocational skills alone. Across the four countries, a set of interwoven obstacles emerged:

Low self-efficacy

Little confidence in one's own abilities.

Limited support

Weak personal and professional networks.

Caring duties

Family responsibilities that limit time and mobility.

Financial constraints

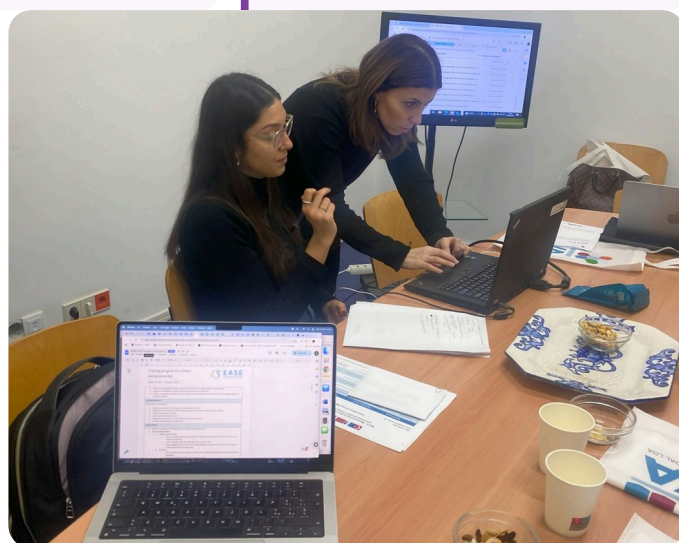
Costs that make participation difficult.

Past learning experiences

Negative school memories that discourage new learning.

Missing emotional focus

Programmes that rarely address the social and emotional side.



The research results were reviewed and validated by the partners in Lisbon, February 2025.

From evidence to resources

- The findings shaped the MAYA Handbook: Principles of the Montessori Method for the Personal and Professional Growth of YAINWs.
- They also defined the seven learning areas of the WP3 Training Curriculum.
- All WP2 outputs are available on mayaproject.eu.



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