



Practice firms on Polish perspective

Szymon Bąk
Vocational counselor - psychologist

IMPROVING EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN THE LABOUR
MARKET FOR MARGINALISED COMMUNITIES



PRESENTATION PLAN

1. The place of practice firms in our legislation
2. CENSYM – the Polish Practice Firms Central Office
3. Other initiatives
4. Conclusions

LEGAL PERSPECTIVE

Practice firms



MINISTERSTWO
EDUKACJI
NARODOWEJ



The Ministry of National Education



Ministerstwo Nauki
i Szkolnictwa Wyższego

Ministry of Science and Higher Education



PRACTICE FIRMS

- © A practice firm is a virtual company and a center of vocational learning that runs like a "real" business silhouetting "real" firm's business procedures, products and services. Each practice firm trades with other practice firms.

<http://cms.europen.info/index.php?id=30&L=oBURnxgc>



CENSYM POLISH PRACTICE FIRMS CENTRAL OFFICE

- ◎ The Polish Practice Firms' Central Office CENSYM was established on the 20th April 1995 in order to coordinate activities of practice firms in Poland and internationally.
- ◎ Since 1996, CENSYM is an exclusive representative of Poland in the global practice firms' network which consists of more than 7800 practice firms in 42 countries.



CENTRAL OFFICE OBJECTIVES

- ◎ All practice firms in a given country are grouped in a national central office which performs a function of macro-environment for these firms. The following institutions are available in the Central Office: a Business Register (a court), a Statistical Office, a Tax Office, a Social Insurance Department, a Bank, a Post Office and a Customs Office which provide practice firms with the following services:
 - a) register new businesses,
 - b) run practice administrative offices,
 - c) keep practice firms' bank accounts,
 - d) provide postal services for practice firms in Poland and abroad,
 - e) keep business records for the Central Office member firms.



STATISTICAL DATA

- ◎ Since the day of establishment, the Central Office provided services to 195 practice firms throughout Poland. In 2011, there were 111 practice firms in Poland located at lower secondary, upper secondary vocational schools and at universities.
- ◎ The Polish CENSYM office hires 1 person who gives service to all of the practice firms functioning along the EUROOPEN idea. Currently there are about 50 active practice firms in the EUROOPEN net.



SETTING UP A PRACTICE FIRM

- © Practice firm setting up procedure begins upon the conclusion of a service contract between the Central Office and the organization which intends to set up a practice firm. The Central Office organizes training in the area of setting up and running a practice firm, taking into account the profile of the business.



CENSYM POLISH PRACTICE FIRMS CENTRAL OFFICE

Costs of setting up a practice firm:

- ③ Training of a group of teachers who will supervise the practice firm - **1500zł**
- ③ EUROOPEN entry fee **290zł**
- ③ CENSYM services to the practice firm - **170zł monthly**
- ③ The expenses associated with a practice firm throughout the school year (10 months) - **3490zł**



PRACTICE FIRMS PROFILE

- © A practice firm profile depends on the needs of individual educational institutions and their specific courses of study.



OTHER INITIATIVES

- ③ While on my search of practice firms in my country, I found many scattered educational initiatives associated with entrepreneurship among children and youth. These projects have very diverse forms such as: business web portals, business plan workshops, Olympiads and decisional games. The practice firms are an addition.
- ③ If you would be interested in more info on this subject, we will prepare a report for You regarding these initiatives.



CONCLUSIONS

- ① The practice firms concept is underdeveloped in Poland
- ① It is mostly associated with vocational training (Constant training centers)
- ① There are practically no practice firms at the university level
- ① Practice firms functioning outside the EUROOPEN are a problem. This results in lack of opportunity of trade exchange with other practice firms in country and internationally, depriving the idea of its main educational value and sense.



Thank You for your attention

Szymon Bąk
Vocational counselor - psychologist