

# The leading voice in vocational integration



*Which network is active in your country for Supported Employment and how is the strategy, policies with SE organized or regulated?*

**dabei-austria** is the Austrian umbrella organization for Supported Employment. The umbrella organisation currently represents around 90 member organisations with nearly 190 projects in the area of vocational orientation and integration. The services provided by these 190 projects aim at people with disabilities or chronic diseases as well as adolescents with special educational needs or at risk of exclusion.

**dabei-austria** is committed to ensuring a fair chance of integration into the open labour market for people with disabilities as well as young people's perspectives on their future working life.

**EVERY YEAR ALMOST 90,000 PEOPLE (AS OF 2018) ARE USING ONE OF THE FOLLOWING SERVICES OFFERED BY DABEI-AUSTRIA'S MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS:**

In Youth Coaching (Jugendcoaching), educational and labor market perspectives are clarified with young people.

In the Vocational School (Produktionsschule), young people obtain basic qualifications for further vocational training.

Work Assistance (Arbeitsassistenz) supports job seekers in searching for a job or apprenticeship and helps securing jobs and overcoming periods of crisis. In addition, Work Assistance supports companies that employ or want to employ people with disabilities.

Vocational Training Assistance (Arbeitsassistenz) supports young people within the context of an extended apprenticeship or partial qualification until they successfully complete their training.

Job Coaching (Jobcoaching) supports people with disabilities and companies with aspects such as organising work processes and solving problems with colleagues and superiors directly at the workplace.

Personal Assistance at the Workplace (Persönliche Assistenz am Arbeitsplatz) enables permanent, needs-based personal support directly at the workplace.

Other vocational qualification and counseling projects also offer other specific job integration opportunities for people with different disabilities

The services described above are primarily regulated by a federal disability law on employment (Behinderteneinstellungsgesetz) as well as by some other accompanying laws regulating education and vocational training in Austria.

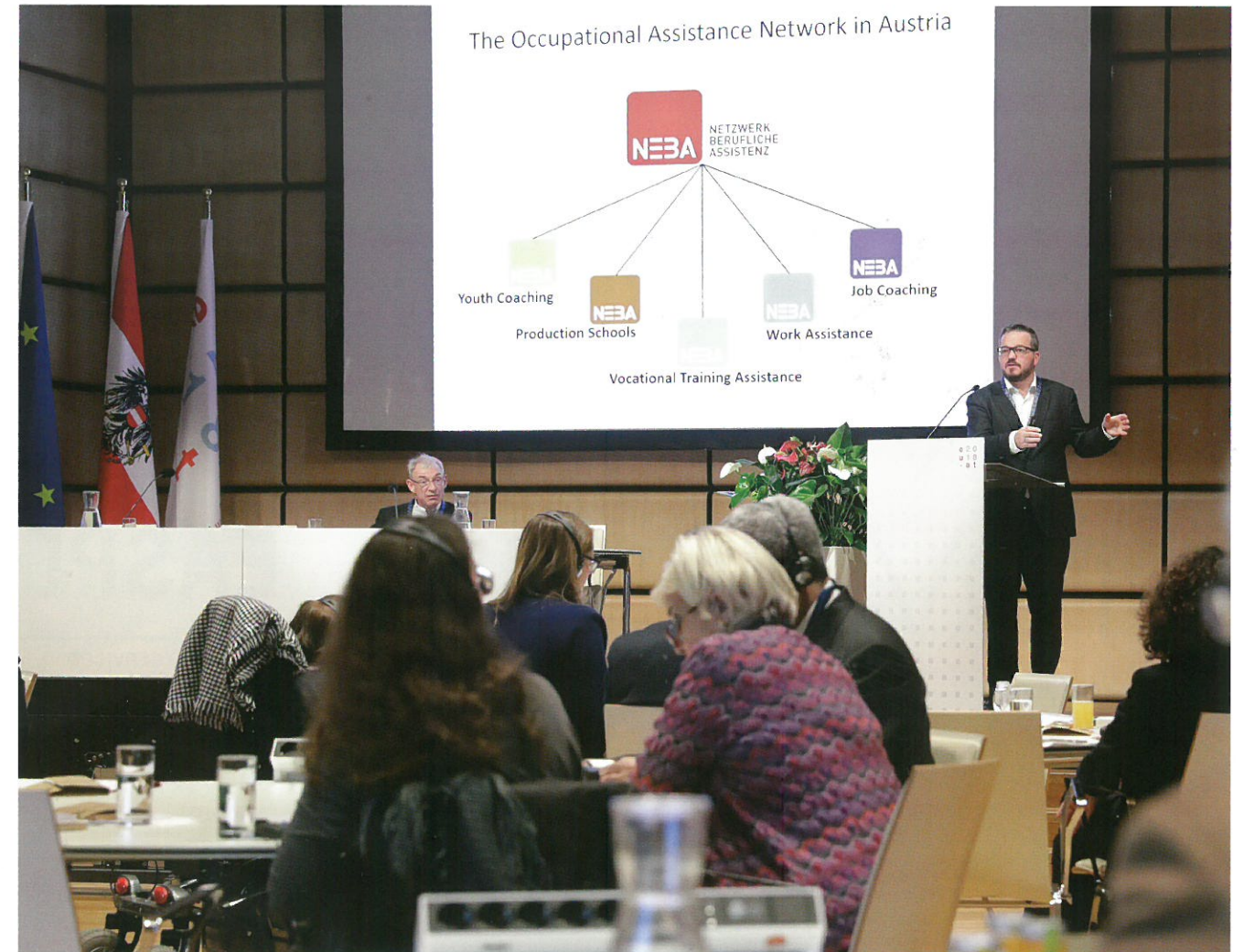
**dabei-austria** advocates the equality of persons with disabilities in the sense of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and points out socio-political disadvantages and problem areas. It is the connecting link and communication platform between the members on the one hand and the administration, politicians, and public funding agencies on the other hand. The umbrella organization also advocates the further development of vocational integration at the European level and ensures the necessary transnational transfer of information and experience from and to Austria.

## WHAT WE DO

**DABEI-AUSTRIA FOCUSES ON THE FOLLOWING AREAS OF ACTIVITIES:**

**dabei-austria** - specialized association and knowledge platform

Service for members and demand-oriented further training choices ensure the quality of service provision at a consistently high level



**dabei-austria** - active special interest group  
Good positioning and constructive cooperation with all partners inside the system make for a clear framework for contracted service companies

**dabei-austria** - leading voice in vocational integration  
Our members and their employees are cross-linked in Austria's economy and thus decisively shape the country's labor market on its way to inclusion

**dabei-austria** - national and European networking/networks  
Regional transfer of experience and transnational project participations trigger innovation

**dabei-austria** - impact to society

With symposia on cutting-edge topics, members and cooperation partners are involved in the shaping of future-oriented solutions for socio-political issues in the public debate

*What are the last development for SE in the last 10 years? Name some good practices.*

In the last 10 years the most important development in Austria was the extension of the target group of Supported Employment services. Nowadays not only people with disabilities have access to these services but also people from other vulnerable target groups such as adolescents at risk of exclusion.

Moreover, the extension of the target group led to more synergies in service provision and those to a much better geographical coverage of the projects. Meanwhile, the projects reach out to all – even rural – areas in Austria.

*What is your dream for SE the coming years, end user and what can you recommend to visit at the conference, content, future developments?*

My dream for Supported Employment in the coming years is to have a full coverage with SE services all over Europe. The SE services will be properly financed in all countries; best practices will be shared all over the continent and each person excluded from the labour market will have access to the SE services needed. SE employment will be widely known as a key element in order to achieve an inclusive labour market for all.

For the conference I strongly recommend to visit the sessions on Policy making and new results as we will need to adapt European and national policies in order to comply with the provisions given by the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UN CRPD).