

Organisational ID	E10236406 PIC: 906704979
Organisation full legal name (national language)	ΟΝΤΙΣΙ Αστική Μη Κερδοσκοπική Εταιρεία
Organisation full legal name (latin characters)	ONTISI A.M.K.E
Acronym	ODY
National ID (if applicable)	137673603000
Department (if applicable)	-
VAT number	EL997167843
Address	17, Nikiforou Mandilara street
Country	Greece
Region	Attika
P.O. Box	-
Post code	18233
Legal status	Non for profit organization
CEDEX	
City	Athens
Website	www.odyssea.com
Email	info@odyssea.com
Telephone 1	+30 210 883 9877
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Type of Organisation	NGO
Is the partner organisation a public body?	No
Is the partner organisation a non-profit?	Yes

Profile

Type of Organisation(NGO/private/public)	NGO
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Legal representative

Title	Mr.
Gender	Male
First Name	Jai – Nikolaos
Family Name	Mexis
Department	-

Position	<i>Founder & CEO</i>
Email	
Telephone	

Person of contact	
Title	<i>Mr.</i>
Gender	<i>Male</i>
First Name	<i>Nikos</i>
Family Name	<i>Andreopoulos</i>
Department	-
Position	<i>Development Manager</i>
Email	
Telephone	<i>+30 210 883 9877</i>

BACKGROUND AND EXPERIENCE

Please briefly present the partner organization.

Odyssea is a nonprofit organization that supports young vulnerable people to have access to employment opportunities in society. We provide tailored vocational and life-skills training combined with employability services that bridge young people with the world of work and empower them to realize their full potential. Placement to work is supported by the advanced Talent Platform newly launched.

Odyssea's mission is to ensure that local or third countries' nationals young people have equal opportunities in society by harnessing the power of knowledge for employment and personal development. In this context Diversity and Inclusion activities are a significant pillar of the overall operation while all services are provided to the beneficiaries free of charge.

Odyssea is recently awarded the New European Bauhaus 2022 Prize

Odyssea is a member of the European Association for Adult Education, member of the EU Pact for Skills Platform, signatory of the EU Diversity Charter, and is registered in the EU Transparency Registry and the USAID registry.

Check our 2020 annual report for an extended overview on the organization: [here](#)

Check our interactive live impact KPIs: [here](#)

Check Odyssea deck: [here](#)

Check a 3D tour of our facilities: [here](#)

What are the activities and experience of the organization in the areas relevant for this application?

Our programs include a state of the art vocational training Academy, an Employability department and Makerspace, a FabLab for social innovation.

- We offer free intensive vocational training courses assisting participants from vulnerable groups to develop valuable soft and hard skills for advancing their professional careers.
- We engage youth through STEM education and targeted skill development training, aiming to bridge the gap between mainstream universities and the labour market.
- We connect our trained beneficiaries with quality employment opportunities either through our network of successful companies or by assisting them in the creation of new enterprises.
- We empower through providing essential learning tools to increase self-reliance and raise their absorption within existing and future markets.

Academy

Our Academy's goal is to help people acquire new hard and soft skills and develop a professional mentality. The Academy process includes [vocational training courses](#) in a variety of subjects, as well as soft and digital skills education. The courses are intensive and hands-on, taking place at our state-of-the-art [training center](#) equipped with the latest technology and training tools.

The list of courses offered by Odyssea is dynamic and reflects the contemporary needs of the market, offering beneficiaries training in jobs that show high employment ratings.

Training categories and programs currently available in our Academy are **HO.RE.CA., M.E.P., BUSINESS and TECH.**

Along with the vocational course of their choosing, our beneficiaries are also provided with **Soft and Digital Skills** development training. This course aims to boost their confidence, identify their strongest personality features and prepare them for an interview. By the end of the course, every participant will have also created their unique digital footprint, including a CV and cover letter, professional social media accounts and a map of all the major employability search engines.

Employability Department

Our Employability Office enables self reliance and accelerates efforts towards a more inclusive society through employment. We believe that true, long-lasting integration for vulnerable groups can only be achieved when they are assimilated across social, political and economic strands of life. The fastest and most efficient way to do this is through permanent, meaningful employment.

Odyssea has a pool of beneficiaries that could potentially fit job vacancies in any organization, company or enterprise. Our constantly growing network of businesses trust us to provide potential employees with minimum effort by advertising their job opportunities through us.

Our services begin with an interpersonal skills' assessment, using the cutting edge, game based psychometric tool designed by Pymetrics. Through one-on-one counselling, we analyze the beneficiary's potential and job prospects that would best fit their personality, education and professional background. Our team of experts keep in touch with every beneficiary for at least a year, contacting them every 3 months, either to learn about their progress or to present them with new job opportunities.

Aiming to support entrepreneurial spirit, Odyssea also offers a **Business Incubation Scholarship program**, which helps beneficiaries set up their own start-ups and new businesses in Greece.

Makerspace

Astrolab is our fabrication laboratory, or makerspace. It is the program of Odyssea that provides technological education, mentorship and open access to hi-tech tools and skills to promote positive social change. Through its offerings, we seek to serve makers, students, organizations, and entrepreneurs. We are interested in ideas, initiatives, and enterprises that push boundaries and have the potential to shape a radically better world.

Training categories and programs available in our Makerspace:

- **Healing Through Making**

Some of our beneficiaries, especially those who come to us from conflict areas, suffer from mental and physical trauma, insecurity and lack of confidence. This often stops them from effectively rebuilding their lives once they've safely reached us. Through a series of makerspace courses and workshops for adults and teenagers, we aim to empower our beneficiaries and spur their creativity to facilitate psychological healing.

- **Education**

We work to support vulnerable youth and unaccompanied minors through classes in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) subjects such as Systems thinking & Robotics, Computational thinking & Programming Engineering Design Processes and Advanced Manufacturing Fundamentals.

- **Maker's Residency**

- **STEAM** One of our core values is supporting social impact projects and the personal development of talented individuals. Our Maker's Residency program does both by providing in-depth hi-tech training and education to people interested in exploring the integration of digital fabrication in the process of design and production.

What are the skills and expertise of key staff/persons involved in this application?

Jai Mexis - Founder & CEO

Jai is an award-winning architect and one of the leading social innovators in Greece. Jai is the Founder of Olon Design Group, a humanitarian architecture company, and Founder and Director of Odyssea, an NGO based in Athens, Greece that focuses on the integration of vulnerable groups through targeted skill development in the labor market. Since 2016, Jai has raised €1,250,000 for Odyssea and grown the organization to 12 full-time staff and 15 part-time tutors. He was awarded the City of Glasgow Eimear Kelt Medal for Architecture 2014, as well as several other architecture and social design prizes. Jai is also part of NextFab Foundation, with which he maintains a long-term relationship on designing and setting up FabLabs for social innovation in developing countries around the world. Jai specializes in the intersection of social design and tech for the humanitarian sector.

Loukas Oikonomakis - CTO

Loukas was born in Athens and studied civil engineering in NTUA. He has an MSc in Structural Engineering from Imperial College London and has worked for a big architectural firm in London. He is specialized in optimisation, parametric design and computational analysis and he likes to read about machine learning and algorithms, trying to keep up with the latest advances of AI. As part of Odyssea, he is contributing with his technical expertise in the development of new projects in our FabLab for social innovation, he is managing the development of new internal tools and workflows and he is offering his technical knowledge in proposal writing.

Nikos Andreopoulos - Development Manager

Nikos Andreopoulos has been active in the field of social protection since 2010 with an emphasis on the field of Mental Health. His more than 20 years involvement in the field of EU projects provide a

high specialization and experience on project development and management. The oversight positions (Projects' Developer / Manager, Secretary General of European Network of Active Living for Mental Health) of the relevant 25 projects of 8 EU DGs in which he participated as the inspirer and head of the by case wide partnerships among state authorities, third sector and academia ensure the in depth understanding of the policies' dimensions and the ability to address the high demanding processes of the EU financial instruments. He currently holds the position of the EU Development Manager at Odyssea.

Anastasia Zisi - Finance Manager

Anastasia is an economist and a certified accountant. She holds a Bachelor in Public Administration and an MSc in Accounting and Finance from the Athens University of Economics and Business. Within Odyssea, as a finance manager manages all financial accounting and reporting systems and produces accurate financial reports. Internally she maintains cash management and manages cash-flow. Ensures the overall good relation and the unobstructed flow of information, between the company and the external accounting office. Develops and ensures external relationships with appropriate contacts, e.g. lawyers, auditors, banks, statutory and public organizations. She ensures daily and routine procurement tasks and supports the HR hiring processes. Anastasia also provides critical support for the successful implementation of the program of Academy and assists its operational and financial monitoring, as well as, its reporting processes.

Thodoris Kostoulas - Academy Manager

Thodoris is a Mechanical Engineer and an experienced educational programs author. He has designed and implemented vocational skills programs for both educators and students as part of a grand design to familiarize Greece with the STEAM Educational approach. Within Odyssea, Thodoris is the one who manages and coordinates all the operations held in the Academy. He is part of the team that designs the annual GANTT chart for the educational operations and is responsible for their flawless execution. Thodoris also widens the outreach of the organization by developing and cultivating professional relationships with key partners and other organizations.

Charoula Roufa - Employability Manager

Charoula has a degree in social anthropology and Specializes in Counseling and Orientation. The last 20 years she has been working as an adult educator in the field of Vocational guidance counselor for vulnerable groups and with people with disabilities, language and cultural differences, or other special needs that affect their employment prospects. Within Odyssea, Charoula consults people for their future plans, contributing towards their social integration and works with them to develop innovative solutions to their problems. She is responsible for bridging the distance between job opportunities and vulnerable potential employees.

Have you participated in a European Union granted project in the 3 years preceding this application.

If Yes Please indicate all relevant EU granted project in the 3 years preceding this application:

EU Project	NADINE
Year	2018-2021
Project Identification or Contract Number	No 822601. https://nadine-project.eu/
Applicant/Beneficiary Name	CERTH
EU Programme	Horizon2020
NADINE project aim is to develop a novel way of integrating migrants and refugees through ICT-enabled solutions that will automatically adapt to the specificities of each person. The consortium agrees that one of the main enablers of migrants/refugees' inclusion, in the host societies, is their ability to work. Hence NADINE's motto is "Give migrants and refugees their dignity back by giving	

them a decent job with a decent salary". Taking into account this important factor, NADINE creates an adaptable platform able to: 1) provide functionalities for skill assessment, 2) dynamically create tailored suited training programs to adapt existing skills into host societies needed skills, 3) provide a digital companion that will suggest and assist the end-users through administrative tasks and 4) create a data lake available to public administration bodies for better organization of migration flows.

NADINE will innovate in several directions from novel training tools, adaptable to different learning setups, to novel ways of information flow handling for public administrations to work efficiently in both business as usual contexts and migration bursts ones. NADINE platform will create potential new markets in different market areas and also will provide novel open tools that will foster new innovation capacity to the EU area.

EU Project	SENSE.STEAM
Year	2022 - 2025
Project Identification or Contract Number	101058507
Applicant/Beneficiary Name	Høgskulen på Vestlandet (HVL)
EU Programme	Horizon Europe
The New European Roadmap to STEAM Education The project aims to feed the talent pipeline, enable and promote vivid brain circulation and fresh innovation power to prepare the EU at large to solve today's and societal challenges; to demonstrate added value of STEAM for science education and how it stimulates uptake of science careers; to equip students, education providers, businesses with knowledge, practices and tools to develop STEAM based curricula and learning approaches	

EU Project	JOINCLUSION
Year	2022 - 2024
Project Identification or Contract Number	2021-2-NL01-KA220-SCH-000048865
Applicant/Beneficiary Name	https://dke.maastrichtuniversity.nl/JOINclusion/
EU Programme	ERASMUS +
Joint problem solving strategy towards social inclusion of children with migrant JOINclusion promotes a new approach to social inclusion based on empowerment and skills acquisition as factors able to bring behavioural change and approach to differences. The project has the ambition to achieve a new milestone towards the provision of innovative game-based pedagogy and assessment methods boosting emotional intelligence, empathy in particular, as a key pillar of pro-social skills fostering diversity and inclusion. The project combines interactive multimedia design with the most effective principles of technologically-mediated learning to develop a game-based educational tool applying psychological modelling of scenarios, to engage the learner emotionally and collaboratively, supporting cognitive engagement (i.e. mental processing and metacognition), affective engagement (emotion processing and regulation), behavioural engagement (gestures, embodied actions, and movement) and socio-cultural engagement (social interactions embedded within a cultural context).	

EU Project	INTERCRAFT
Year	2022 - 2025
Project Identification or Contract Number	2022-1-IT01-KA220-VET-000088160
Applicant/Beneficiary Name	Terra di Tutti SRL Impresa Sociale (IT)
EU Programme	ERASMUS +
<p>The project INTERCULTURAL CRAFT: a bridge between traditional knowledge and different cultures (INTERCRAFT) aims to promote new forms of social innovation and intercultural dialogue, creating and supporting learning and training paths that can recognize and enhance the craft skills and competences of migrants, asylum seekers, refugees, and relate their skills to the traditional local artisan knowledge of the host European territories. Main objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • enhance the traditional knowledge and skills of migrant people; • contrast the dispersion of local traditional artisan knowledge and techniques. 	

EU Project	E.MEDIC
Year	2023 - 2025
Project Identification or Contract Number	
Applicant/Beneficiary Name	UNIVERSITA DEGLI STUDI DI FOGGIA (IT)
EU Programme	Erasmus+ - Cooperation partnerships
<p>Effectiveness of Medicine E-learning Distance Courses</p> <p>The global pandemic resulting from the novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) has had a drastic impact on the delivery of healthcare and medical education across the globe. The requirement for the medical education community to ensure the safety of students, faculty and patients alike is driving much of the change in practice.</p> <p>The E-MEDIC project proposal aims to deliver practical strategies and learning modules for the academic staff (professors, lecturers, researchers) in health sector.</p> <p>The main idea of the project is to provide methods and solutions adapted to the specific needs of the medical educators. In particular, the learning platform will be designed to be very ease-of-use, with targeted contents, giving the possibility to the medical educators to learn also when they have little slots of time. The learning environment will be designed (and co-designed with them) starting from the paradigms of the ubiquitous and mobile learning. The learning contents will be supplied with quick videos, podcasts and practical experiences, avoiding to burden the learner with a great amount of data to read.</p>	

EU Project	Voices of Immigrant Women (https://viw.pixel-online.org/associated-partners.php)
Year	2020 - 2022
Project Identification or Contract Number	2020-1-ES01-KA203-082364

Applicant/Beneficiary Name	Universidad Pablo de Olavide of Seville
EU Programme	ERASMUS +
<p>The VIW project is funded by the European Commission through the Spanish National Agency for the Erasmus+ Programme, with the aim of making HEIs more inclusive by promoting a holistic comprehension of the gender issues in migration flows. Odyssea is participating as Associate partner.</p>	