



Building a Comprehensive Educational Ecosystem for Sustainable Development Goals

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Coordinator



Partners



ACEEU



ABD

Welfare and
Development
Association



Nykiel



RIGA TECHNICAL
UNIVERSITY



UAB
Universitat Autònoma
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Player

Break Into the Job Market

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Time: 20 - 30 minutes

Teams: 10 - 20 players

Location: Any indoor or outdoor space

The Story

The job market can feel like a closed circle - competitive, unpredictable, and sometimes unfair. Many job seekers try again and again, yet barriers block their way: experience requirements, competition, biases, and factors beyond their control. In this simulation, you step into a physical version of that struggle. The circle represents the job market. The person outside represents someone trying to enter. The person inside represents a 'good job' - secure, desirable, and hard to reach.

Your mission: try to break into the circle and reach the job.

Experience first-hand how difficult job access can be.

Mission Tasks

Step 1: Create the Job Market (2 minutes)

Form a tight circle with all players standing shoulder-to-shoulder. One person stands inside the circle - the good job. One person stands outside the circle - the job hunter.

Step 2: Break In (10 minutes)

The job hunter tries to push, manoeuvre, or slip through the circle to reach the job. Meanwhile, the circle works together to block the job hunter and keep them out. Once the job hunter reaches the job, roles switch and the next round begins.

Optional mission bonus:

The facilitator may add obstacles such as limiting the job hunter's movement, blindfolding them to represent discrimination, strengthening the circle to represent an economic crisis, or slightly opening the circle to represent a favourable job market.

Step 3: Reflect & Discuss (5 minutes)

Talk as a group:

- How did it feel to be the job hunter?
- What made entering the circle difficult?
- What real-life job market barriers does this represent?
- What helps or prevents success?

Why Your Mission Matters

Breaking into the job market can be extremely difficult, especially for people facing additional obstacles. This activity shows how persistence, opportunity, privilege, and cooperation all play a role - and highlights why fair hiring practices, support systems, and inclusive workplaces matter.

Stand for equal opportunities.

Mission Equipment

Blindfolds (optional)

