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Dear Members, welcome to the September issue of the EfVET Magazine.

First of all, I hope you have enjoyed your well-deserved holidays. This school year just started promises to be intense and demanding, so it is important to come back fresh and ready to continue with the task of raising the quality and attractiveness of VET across Europe.

In the next three months there will be many events, meetings and projects. The first week in September the WG on VET will meet in Bonn, on the occasion of a Peer Learning Activity organised by the BIBB (Federal Institute for VET), and also the Platform of European Associations of VET providers in Brussels, to discuss the action plan for the next 2 years. The Estonian Presidency of the EU has also organised a couple of events in Tallinn, where EfVET will be represented. And we continue with our presence in events organised by the European Commission and CEDEFOP (ECVET, EQAVET, EQF Advisory Board, Policy Learning Forums ...).

But no doubt the two milestones will be our 26th Conference in Thessaloniki at the end of October and the Second Vocational Skills Week at the end of November. Many of you have already registered for the Conference, but it is not too late if you haven’t done it. All the information is available at http://efvet-conference.eu. There you will find out the programme we have prepared for all of you, full of interesting speakers, with representatives of the EU, CEDEFOP and OECD among others. Also the workshops, roundtables – still time to register one as well – and social activities will surely be a source of inspiration and enjoyment. I am pretty sure you will come home with plenty of ideas to put into practice in your daily tasks and new partnerships.

And in Thessaloniki we will hear and talk a lot about the EU Skills Week. EfVET is collaborating in the organisation and development of the event, which will take place at a national level and in Brussels, under the same motto as last year: Discover your talent! It is very important to register your local events to be part of those marked with the seal and recognition of the European Commission. That could also be a way to show how active EfVET members are in supporting the initiatives coming from the EU in order to make VET more visible and a first option, as Commissioner Thyssen uses to say. You can find all the information and register your event at http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=1261

Time goes by very quickly, and I was elected President one year ago. I would like to thank all of you for the support and affection I have received since then. I am really proud and honoured of working for such a fantastic people.

Since about 15 years ago Vivi Back Lundgren from Tietgen, Denmark was working with the layout of the Newsletter and we thank you for your support and work over the years. You have proved a real asset and made a significant contribution facilitating our communication with our members: Thank you very much, Vivi! Alicia is taking over and can also coordinate the articles from the Magazine with the website and the new media. At the same time, we have changed the layout of the Magazine and we hope, you like the result!

Inside this magazine you will find a lot of information about EfVET members’ work, projects, multiplier events and many other activities. Discover the talent inside EfVET, and share it with others.

Don’t forget our 26th Annual Conference!! Thessaloniki is waiting for us and I am sure we will spend a fantastic time there.

Warmest regards, and see you in Thessaloniki!
The 26th EfVET Annual International Conference which will take place in Thessaloniki, Greece, on the 25th – 28th October 2017.

Since the registrations were opened over 200 delegates already registered. We are pleased to count with practitioners, researchers and educators from around the world, who are engaged in shaping the future of the Vocational Education and Training system.

This year’s Conference will cover more than 72 hours, 30 roundtables and 6 workshops and indeed will welcome high-level speakers such as Mr. James Calleja (CEDEFOP Director), Joao Santos (DG Employment), Greek representatives from industry and the education sector, EfVET President and National EfVET Representatives and VET representatives among others.

Under the theme of “Work & Education aligned to the future”, the 26th Annual Conference will tackle issues already mentioned by the World Economic Forum in its publication “The Future of jobs” (2016), which states that we are at the beginning of a Fourth Industrial Revolution. This is not only a technological revolution, as there are also socio-economic, geopolitical and demographic changes influencing the new scenario.

Today’s job markets and in-demand skills are vastly different from the ones of ten or even five years ago, and the pace of change is only set to accelerate. Governments, businesses and individuals alike are increasingly concerned with identifying and forecasting skills that are relevant not just today but that will remain or become so in the future to meet business demands for talent. Skills mismatches are then not only about today, but between today’s skills and future skills requirements. Some studies forecast 65% of children in today’s primary schools will work in jobs not existing yet. So we must look to those skills people will need in order to face a rapidly changing labour market.

The 26th EfVET Annual International Conference will be the perfect place to discuss about the future of work and education due to the high-level of participants knowledge to be found in Thessaloniki.

Further details about the conference can be found here: http://efvet-conference.eu/
EU Skills Profile Tool

Launch event:
20 June 2017

The European Commission presented the new EU Skills Profile tool for third Country nationals on World Refugees Day, 20 June.

The tool is meant to support early identification of the skills of refugees, migrants and other third country nationals and has been developed by the Commission.

During the event there were four interviews focused on the importance of skills identification for integration, in addition to a panel discussion and several speeches. Marianne Thyssen, Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility visited a reception centre and tested the tool. Michel Servoz, Director-General of the Commission’s Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion delivered the closing address.

The EU Skills Profile Tool
The EU Skills Profile Tool is intended for use by any services that may be offering assistance to third country nationals and should be used in an interview situation to get to know the individual, their skills, qualifications and experiences.

The aim of the tool is to help individuals produce a profile of their skills and to help an adviser identify any recommendations or next steps.

The information collected can be used to:
• support further assessment;
• form a basis for offering guidance;
• identify up-skilling needs;
• support job-searching and job-matching.

The tool is not intended as a recognition or authentication tool. It will be available in all EU and EEA languages and in Arabic, Farsi, Pashto, Sorani, Somali and Tigrinya. It will be possible to see two languages at the same time on one screen, reducing language barriers between case workers and the third country national. When information is not available in one of the chosen languages it will be presented in English.

The tool shall be available as a web-tool for PC and Mobile devices, and possibly in a mobile app. It will be possible to complete the tool offline and online. Instructions on how to complete the fields are integrated in the tool. Completed profiles will exportable as PDF, Word or XML files.

As the tool is under development the European Commission encourages you to test the Beta version and send an email to EMPL-E2-SKILLS-PROFILE-TOOL@ec.europa.eu with the word “Feedback” in the subject line.

http://skpt-test.eu-west-1.elasticbeanstalk.com/

Alicia Gaban Barrio
EfVET Communication Officer
In 2017 the European Association for the Education of Adults (EAEA) and its members celebrate the EAEA Year of Adult Education in Europe. “The EAEA Year of Adult Education – The Power and Joy of Learning” is a campaign initiated by the EAEA, to make the power and joy of learning visible.

With the campaign, EAEA wants to bring together European adult education organisations to demonstrate how adult learning can improve citizens’ lives and prospects in Europe, both on a personal and on a professional level.

The campaign collects events organised by adult education organisations around Europe. We welcome adult education organisations from the wide spectrum of lifelong learning – from vocational training and education to non-formal and informal adult education. The events will be published on the campaign website and promoted in EAEA’s communication channels.

The event organisers are also asked to formulate policy messages to the European policy-makers and share best practices with the adult education colleagues. EAEA collects these key messages and best practices after the events, shares them and brings them to policy-makers. The year will be finalised with a celebration in Brussels in December 2017.

The events and organisations taking part in the campaign use the EAEA Manifesto for Adult Learning in the 21st Century as a backbone to their activities. The Manifesto sets objectives for the creation of a Learning Europe: a Europe that is able to tackle the future positively and with all necessary skills, knowledge and competences.

The motivation for this campaign comes from the need to make adult education more visible and by joining forces EAEA believes the voice of adult educators from around Europe can be heard even louder. EAEA invites all the adult education organisations in Europe to join the campaign to highlight the power and joy of learning.

Read more on how you can join the campaign!

https://adulteducation2017.eu/
For the second year more EfVET is involved in the preparation and realization of the VET Skills Week 2017 which takes place in Brussels from 20-24 November 2017.

The week will include a Vocational Educating Training Day, an enterprise-education summit to mark the completion of the European Pact 4 Youth, and a colorful closing event including an award ceremony.

The European Commission will work with all its partners, including EU agencies CEDEFOP and the European Training Foundation, to make the Second European Vocational Skills Week even more successful than the first one.

The webpage (http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=1261) includes an electronic registration system for national, regional or local events/activities that we can showcase on a map. This will give you visibility and you are at liberty to use the visual identity for the European Vocational Skills Week.

VET Skills Week in 2016

EfVET with members was also involved in the preparation and realization of the VET Skills Week in 2016, which took place in Brussels from 5-9 December 2016.

Around 1400 participants joined the workshops, conference and other events in Brussels. At national level, Spain, Italy and other European countries organised the most events during the week.
On Friday 25th of August EfVET’s Greek National Representative Mr Panagiotis G. Anastassopoulos visited Deputy Minister of Education, Research and Religious Affairs Mr Dimitris Baxevanakis in Athens.

The reforms on Vocational Education and Training that are now being implemented by this political leadership in Greece were discussed. Moreover the Deputy Minister was invited to the 26th International Annual Conference of EfVET which will take place in Thessaloniki from 25th to 28th of October this autumn.

He will address a small introduction of these reforms in Greece and at the same time a delegation will participate in the workshops and the roundtables.

Greece has a very long tradition in Vocational Education and Training and over the years multiple significant reforms have been made especially regarding apprenticeships.

EfVET Germany: Annual meeting

EfVET is still not well known in Germany and there are less members than in other countries with strong vocational education. Therefore, the invitation of the German ‘Informations- und Beratungsstelle für Auslandsaufenthalte in der beruflichen Bildung’ (ibs - https://www.go-ibs.de/) to present EfVET at the annual meeting of multipliers in VET-mobilities in Hannover on 4th May 2017 was a chance in a thousand to enhance EfVET’s publicity in Germany.

Besides multipliers for VET-mobilities from all over Germany there were representatives of the German National Agency, the administration responsible for internationalisation in Lower Saxony and experts of the German ECVET and Europass Centres.

My presentation of EfVET as a broad network and independent influential European organisation in VET was met with great interest. There were many questions about to the annual conferences and the benefits for members I was able to answer. In some further individual conversations, multipliers were particularly interested in further information about the annual conferences, which I was happy to provide. The link to our conference website was spread in the multiplier network before the summer holidays.

Hence, an important first step to increasing the awareness of EfVET in Germany and attracting new members has been made.
Like countries all around the globe, Russia is strongly concerned with providing a competent workforce for its labour market [9]. The relevance of this goal is further enhanced by the country’s goal to build an innovative economy [11]. To this end the primary focus is on addressing the persisting skills gaps and skills shortages. According to the Ministry of Education and Science, the mismatch varies by the sector, ranging from 30 to 70% of the demand, with the skills gaps most pronounced in the innovative sectors and at high-tech companies [12].

Vocational education is instrumental in meeting this goal. This idea is stressed in all major policy documents adopted in the country in the recent years. Concrete steps for the implementation of the above goal are set out in the Strategy for Workforce Training and Skills Development in the Russian Federation for the Period up to 2020 that defines key long-term policy objectives for training skilled workers and middle-level specialists [10]. The implementation of the Strategy is largely contingent on key internal and external impact factors and trends, the latter inevitable in the age of globalisation. The most obvious external factors affecting the development of vocational education and training in the Russian Federation embrace, apart from globalisation:

- rapid outdating of certain occupations and appearance of new occupations under the impact of technological innovations, which results in dynamic changes in the industrial production processes, economy and its social sectors, including a need to introduce rigid environmental standards for production (energy saving methods and alternative sources of energy, green technology, etc.);
- internationalisation processes in education, negative demographic trends,
- after-effects of the persistent economic crises that aggravate the employment situation [ibid].

As for the negative internal factors impacting VET development, the key ones comprise a growing competition on the part of the corporate vocational training systems that big domestic and international companies set up (as it is, 66% employers prefer to provide basic and continuing training and retraining for their employees at their own training centres).

Overall, such practices are in line with the global trend towards enhancing the role of in-company training of personnel [2]. Another internal impact factor is a low prestige of VET compared to higher education that results in the population choice of higher education options. It should be stressed that the competition with higher education is further aggravated by the negative demographic trends. It is estimated that by 2016 the 17–25 age cohort will shrink by 12%-15%, with all the ensuing consequences for VET schools [10].

The low prestige of VET naturally results in a low attractiveness of workers qualifications and of qualifications of mid-level specialists compared to higher education qualifications, despite an ever growing demand for the former on the labour market. This impact factor can partly be accounted for by a weak system of career guidance and counseling, and by inadequate quality of skills of VET teachers and of instructors of practical training, which is another issue that is being currently addressed.

Also, the VET system is negatively affected by the remaining poor infrastructure and outdated equipment at many VET schools. Nevertheless, despite the above-mentioned impact factors, the movement towards modernisation is obvious. The recently approved Strategy for Workforce Training and Skills Development in the Russian Federation for the Period up to 2020 aims at addressing the above issues [10].

References
Olga Oleynikova
Director of the Centre for VET studies (Russia)

Trends & Challenges in VET in Russia

Read full article here
Last months EfVET members has grow. We are happy to introduce our 8 new members:

**Albania**
**ALB-Development Consultancy**
Their work is focused on: Vocational Education and Training system development; Career Education and Guidance and Human Capacity Development and Coaching for Employment. “Sharing is caring” is their motto.
Contact: Alma Shkreli - alma.shkreli@albdc.al

**Greece**
**SBIE**
Vocational Training Institute is focused on Health Professions. It is based in Piraeus (Greece) and is open for exchanging good practices and new cooperation.
Contact: Eirini Mani - irini@sbie.edu.gr

**Germany**
**GSW Mainz**
The business college GSW Mainz main areas of curriculum are Economics, Business studies, European Business Baccalaureate Diploma. They have a broad experience working on EBBD and Fairtrad, The school would like to establish international partnerships.
Contact: Stefanie Wollscheid - stefanie.wollscheid@gsw-mainz.de

**Finland**
**RASEKO**
Finish VET provider RASEKO is working mainly on Vocational education and training, further training and business development. They are looking for European Partnership for staff and students mobility, but as well for projects developments.
Contact: Hannu Koivisto - hannu.koivisto@rasek-

**Belgium**
**Heilig Hartinstituut Kessel –Lo**
Our second Belgian member focused it work on international projects, arts, sports and sciences.
Contact: Heleen Van Den Haute - heleen.vanden-haute@hhscholen.be

**The Netherlands**
**Graafschap College**
The Graafschap College key areas of curriculum provision are directed for secundary education at all the levels and departments, including level 2, 3 and 4 of MBA of education.
Contact: Mieke Veenink - m.veenink@graafschap-college.nl

**Russia**
**Centre for VET Studies**
This Centre for VET Studies is looking for active cooperation in the field of VET. Their main activities are: Analyse and research international developments in VET and the labour market, disseminate international experience among VET and labour market stakeholders, including policy-makers among others.
Contact: Olga Oleynikova - observatory@cvets.ru

**Spain**
**Asociacion Mundus**
It’s a not-for-profit association created by professionals from Educational sector, people passionate about mobility and exchange, as well as cultural diversity and non-formal development for youngsters. They have special interest in collaborate with other members in K2 Partnerships for improving quality and processes in international VET mobility for students and teachers.
Contact: Enrique Miana - vet@asociacionmundus.com
Promote WBL brings together 7 organisations from across Europe to support the agenda of creating high quality work-based learning opportunities for young people across the continent. As a part of this mission we are producing a flexible, fully-accessible online course that can be used by VET teachers, tutors and other professionals.

Project meeting
As part of our project work the team are running a Joint Staff Training programme to be held in Lublin, Poland from 4th September to 8th September 2017. This key event forms an integral part of the development process offering an opportunity for participants to evaluate and review the modular Online learning content of Promote WBL.

The week in Lublin (Poland), is the first opportunity for the partnership to invite key people from the VET sector to take an in-depth look at our brand new training tool. It is a vital step in the development of an online course that can create real impact for the sector; we need to involve our potential users to make sure it is relevant, useful and easy to use. The feedback we gather as a result of this training week will be a crucial phase of the development and will have a significant impact on the final course before it is released to the wider sector.

At the end of the week, this team will produce a clear plan of recommendations for improvements and a possible strategy for implementing the course in your own organisations, networks and future CPD.

Promote WBL course
The team has developed the Promote WBL course in a modular format consisting of 7 modules. These are described in brief below:

1) The Benefits of Work-Based Learning for students, business and VET Institutions.
2) High-quality work-based learning (WBL)
3) How to help students to make the most of their work-based learning experience
4) Tools for effective work-based learning

Expected outcomes
The outcomes of this Promote WBL Online Course Review will ultimately inform the final product of our project. The timing of this event coincides with the publication of the EfVET Newsletter, however you will be able to follow our progress via our website: www.promotewbl.eu.

EfVET Conference
In addition Promote WBL team members will be attending the EfVET Conference to be held in Thessaloniki, 24th to 27th October 2017 offering an opportunity for us to share our development activity during the Roundtable events on Friday 26th. Moreover, for those who arrive a little early are invited to attend our Seminar to be held on Wednesday afternoon - 12.30pm to learn more about our project and explore how it could be used within your organisation to promote high quality Work Based Learning. Come and join us. We are delighted to have secured a top level speaker from CEDEFOP who will place the project within the overall development activity of building effective WBL and Apprenticeship initiatives across Europe.
For decades teaching and training has very much so focused on the didactic teaching methods; the usual chalk and talk, PowerPoint presentations and question and answering (the traditional lecturing or teacher “knows all” model). However, as time progresses digital literacy and e-learning have become an ever-increasing norm in society, and as result new teaching and training methods are evolving. Andragogy (adult learning) is a theory that holds a set of assumptions about how adults learn. It uses approaches to learning that are problem-based and collaborative.

The MODERN project focuses on the delivery of these new teaching and training methods – particularly with regard to the role of digital in teaching and training.

The team behind Modern have put together a toolkit evaluating and selecting the best and most effective digital teaching tools; tools in which they have tried and tested and believe to be the most effective in engaging individuals.

MODERN Toolkit
The toolkit itself looks at 24 different tools which are split into a 10 category system, the system is designed in such a way to make it easier for individuals to identify what they can add to their teaching/training to increase its effectiveness. For example, if you are tired of PowerPoint and want to add extra interest to your presentations you can choose from the top 2 recommendations in Presentation Software/Animation Tools section.

Digital and e-learning has progressed rapidly since the coining of the term ‘e-learning’ and now encompasses websites, ebooks, social media and online communities, online lectures, webinars, podcasts and microblogging. As such, it has proven to be a viable way of training and developing people in organisational and classroom settings, and one that forms part (though not all) of an organisation’s wider learning strategy. We, at Modern believe that the toolkit itself is a rich resource that encourages teachers and trainers to incorporate new and exciting tools into their delivery in order to engage and motivate their audience.

To view the toolkit and other useful resources please go to our website www.modern.pm and stay up to date with what we are up to by following us on Facebook.

Canice Consulting
Social Media. The words themselves seem to just roll off our tongue. Social Media is becoming one of the nation’s ‘spare time’ habits, in fact many would say it’s more than a fleeting habit with over 1.97 billion of us registered as active users worldwide, and this is only going to grow. Such statistics, taken from a local study found that while Facebook was the first social network to surpass 1 billion registered accounts, it was followed closely by the messaging app Whatsapp, YouTube and Instagram.

Guilty? Whether we like to admit it or not, each of us can hold our hands up and admit that at some stage in our lives the temptation of social media has urged us to explore what exactly it’s all about. And whilst its widely associated with young to middle-aged people, there are older individuals that just can’t help themselves, in fact 1 in 4 over 65 year olds are active users of social media and have been labelled ‘Instagrans’, proving that social media penetration worldwide is ever-increasing and is showing no signs of slowing down.

However, the world of Social Media isn’t all ‘LOL’s’ and hashtags, instead for some it transpires into a very dark, and lonely path, which effects mainly those aged between 16-24. This particular project, Healthy Social Media, has identified the ‘unhealthy’ side to social media, the side which perhaps parents, guardians and indeed young people don’t hear enough about. Propaganda, radicalization, victimisation and cyberbullying are some of the negative and unwanted issues that active users of social media have to deal with, and in some cases, cannot deal with.

Healthy Social Media Project
Healthy Social Media is targeted at 16-24 year olds, and its main aim is to significantly improve the ability of young people to critically assess and engage with the digital and social media they are consuming and creating in a way that favours their empowerment and active citizenship. This project just held its first partner meeting in New Lodge Duncairn Community Health Partnership, Belfast and welcomed partners from Spain, Slovenia and Belgium. The meeting itself proved to an overall success and it is shaping up to be an extremely exciting and relevant project.

The project website (www.healthysocialmedia.eu) will be launching soon so watch this space! To keep updated please follow the Facebook page.
BGame (www.bgame-project.eu) is an European initiative, funded by the European Commission, that gathers a team of experts in entrepreneurship and ICT to design and develop a Virtual Game for SMEs on Strategic Management.

The project: Visual Game or BGame

This Virtual Game will give the player the possibility to choose between 8 different company scenarios (e.g. canned soup factory or clothes producing company) and open new offices in other locations (can be national – different cities – or international).

This Virtual Game, or BGame as we call it, will be completed with a set of learning resources that will provide further information to the player on the topics that are approached in the game. For the game to run, players have to make decisions on a wide variety of topics, such as foreign market selection, marketing and advertisement, human resources management, finances, and others, and these learning resources will focus exactly on these topics. This way, the player is learning within the game environment.

BGame Conference

On the 21st of September, in the amazing city of Science and the Arts – Valencia, BGame partners will host a Conference to present the main achievements of this European initiative.

We would be delighted to invite you to attend this event, which will be celebrating the end of a 2-year partnership dedicated to “Strategic Management Games”.

Starting at 19:00, the aim of this conference is to present the main achievements of this European initiative, namely the Virtual Game designed for SMEs, for representatives from Higher Education Institutions (Management courses), including students and for business trainers as well as the training resources developed by the partners.

Join us in Valencia

Participation in the conference is free of charge, but sitting is limited. Register now by sending an email to marta.pinto@inovamais.pt

We look forward to having you with us at the conference!
Safety4el project seeks to remove barriers by developing training modules and in association with employer organizations and union seek to influence policy makers to work towards a recognized European certificate.

Scaffolding Guidebook
The “Scaffolding Guidebook” describes how to use the Safety4el materials in a CLIL (Content and Language Integrated Lesson) context. Using CLIL and scaffolding can help non-native learners better work with abstract issues.

The case is based on the participants watching a video where they'll point out all the work environment issues they observe during the video. The safety and work environment issues demonstrated in video are:

- Disorder at work
- Protective equipment for eyes and ears
- Disorder on the workbench / workplace
- Flammable liquids (lighter fluid, detergents, etc.) in the workplace
- Flammable materials (cardboard, paper, etc.) in the workplace
- Use of work equipment (angle grinder) without personal protective equipment (safety gloves)
- Use of work equipment (angle grinder) without personal protective equipment (safety goggles)
- Use of work equipment (angle grinder) without personal protective equipment (hearing protection)
- Technical aid (angle grinder) without guard and handle

Download the case in:
- Danish
- English
- Greek
- Maltese
- Spanish

Website translation
The project teams have now prepared the website areas so all main pages are available in Danish, English, Greek, Maltese, and Spanish. The website automatically switches to Danish, English, Greek, Maltese, and Spanish when a visitor is using a web browser installed in one of those languages (Firefox, Internet Explorer, Safari, Chrome etc.)

Multiplier event in UK

On Friday 1st September the multiplier event for Safety4El was held at a local business in Bridgwater, UK. This was an exciting event for the Team to speak to employers and their employees about the importance of the safety at work for Electricians. The Team managed to speak to over 20 people about the project with them all keen to provide feedback on the course materials. The free cake also went down well!

http://safety4el.net/
ROI-MOB project starts to collect data from different stakeholders in partner territories. Many common points emerged when comparing results. Especially, in every territory, the project topics raised interest and caught the attention of stakeholders. After their survey results collection of data set the baseline for the definition of tentative performance indicators for the measurement of the ROI of EU VET mobility. The partners plan is involving a sample of stakeholders, and testing indicators on on-going motilities.

**Multiplier event in Hamburg**

THE ROI-MOB project meeting held their 2nd transnational meeting and multiplier event in Hamburg, Germany. More than 30 participants, belonging to schools, companies and public institutions attended the multiplier event. Presentations started from the general framework of EU VET mobility and existing studies about the impact of VET and moved through an overview of topics ‘high on the agenda’ of the EU in Education and Training and through results of a previsions survey carried out by a European network. Luca Boetti (coordinator) presented ROI-MOB to participants plus its activities.

During the meeting three apprentices were interviewed, who spent a mobility period in companies aboard (UK, Italy and China). Interviewees had the chance to answer a few questions about their experience, their own “return on investment”, their view of the pros and cons of mobility.

**Next meeting in Seville**

The next transnational meeting will take place the first week of October in Seville, Spain and it will be hosted by the Spanish partner INCOMA.
Apprenticeship Experiences Abroad from Italy

“More than 105 young people in the environmental field have benefited from the scholarship and have spent 17 consecutive weeks, about 4 months, in foreign countries”

Patrizia Carfagna
Director of IIS Brunelleschi - Da Vinci, Frosinone

Project T.R.E.E.- Territory Research Environment Ecology
An interesting postgraduate apprenticeship project has just been concluded: project T.R.E.E.- Territory Research Environment Ecology. It has allowed many students of the Institute of higher education Filippo Brunelleschi – Leonardo da Vinci in Frosinone (close to Rome) to experience a truly unique experience.

The project, which was born under the ERASMUS + KA1 VET Learners and Staff Mobility Program, was promoted by the Liri-Garigliano and Valturino River Basin Authorities in partnership with some Italian high schools.

The sector involved in the project was the technological one for surveying in particular Construction, Environment, Territory, a wide range of studies that cannot be compared with other European countries but is an Italian prerogative.

More than 105 young people in the environmental field have benefited from the scholarship and have spent 17 consecutive weeks, about 4 months, in foreign countries. The internships offered included the following areas: Environmental protection; Control and maintenance of the territory for the purpose of mitigating the hydrogeological risk; Waste treatment; Local development; Water distribution and purification.

Internships goals
Internships abroad have achieved the following objectives: increase practical-operational skills; improve the ability of analysis, problem solving, communication, predisposition to change and adaptation to the work environment and to new realities, due naturally to the lack of empirical experience; refine language skills and knowledge.

Pupils have acquired soft skills, have learned how to be invested effectively in a work environment, or in a teamwork, how to solve everyday problems, how to use their skills to deal with and solve problems both in the field of work and in everyday life.

The countries involved in the internships were: United Kingdom (London), Spain (Valentia) and Malta (Valletta).

The students successfully completed the experience and many of them were requested by foreign companies to continue with a new internship period for recruitment.

The enthusiasm of the students returning to Italy is proof that the project has achieved an excellent result and we hope it will continue in the coming years.
LifeOnline project at EfVET Conference

At the EFET conference in October 2017, LifeOnline will be holding a round table session- ran by Jon Harding. This is a great opportunity to come and hear more about this exciting project and how your organisation can get involved. LifeOnline is a blended learning package ready for students who need training in entrepreneurship and becoming ready for the world of work. The course has now been branded as ‘Master Your Future’.

In order to improve the effectiveness while in work or training, the project will focus on five key competency areas:

• Kick-start your global journey
• Communicate like a “Proé
• Manage your career
• Master the art of teamork
• Think like an Entrepreneur

It would be great to see as many of you at our roundtable session as possible!

www.lifeonline.education

Bridgwater & Taunton College staff mobility

For the first time at Bridgwater & Taunton College, three Higher Education staff have visited Helsinki, Finland on a 5 day mobility.

They are spending the week with Helsinki Business College and HAAGA-HELIA.

This is a brilliant opportunity for them to see how the Finnish Education System works and what can be brought back and implemented in to Bridgwater & Taunton College. Once they return we will keep you updated with how they got on!
The first European Minimum Standard of Competencies (EMSC) on Gender Equality for practitioners acting in transition phases is ready!

After a first phase of study and analysis, in June, during the transnational partners meeting in Sofia, the project partners have discussed the first draft of the EMSC, with Gender Experts coming from different EU countries and the EIGE (European Institute of Gender Equality). Specifically Barbara Limanowska, from EIGE underlined the relevance of the Standard and its usefulness as a practical tool to be implemented in the education-training-labour market chain professionals’ continuous development.

Indeed, by identifying the expected professional competencies, the GET UP project partners intend to underline how these professionals are asked to renew their competence profiles and/or acquire complementary capabilities, which up to now are unconsciously gender-neutral and therefore not able to remove gender stereotypes and discriminations, if not to valorise diversity. The idea behind is that if references to the gender dimension are made explicitly, professionals are brought to consider it and face its implications.

The first draft of the EMSC is ready to be tested, during the piloting phase of the GET UP project, starting at the end of 2017.

If you want to learn more about it and its transferability to other EU countries, join us at the roundtable in the next EfVET conference at Thessaloniki 25-28 October 2017!

www.getupproject.eu

Partners
UIL - Italian Labour Trade Union (lead partner), AIDP - Italian Association for People Management, LETU - Lithuanian Education Trade Union, ALDA - Association of Local Democracy Agencies, DIESIS - European research and development service for the social economy, FORMA.Azione s.r.l., WETCO - Bulgarian Workers Education and Training College, MUT - Malta Union of Teachers.