PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF VET TUTORS AND TRAINERS TO ENHANCE SOCIAL INCLUSION IN WORK-BASED LEARNING

NEWSLETTER N°. 1

ABOUT THE PROJECT

The promotion of inclusive education and lifelong learning for learners with disabilities is one of the priority areas set up under the European Disability Strategy 2010-2020. Moreover, in the Bruges Communiqué the EC proposes to increase the possibilities for disadvantaged learners in VET by offering innovative VET training and more Work-Based Learning (WBL).

For these reasons, the VET4ALL project objectives are focused on the training of teachers and staff working with the target group to make WBL experiences more fruitful. In details VET4ALL aims at:

• developing flexible pathways which connect the VET formal school curriculum to Work Based Learning for students with disabilities and special needs;
• fostering the implementation of ECVET principles and tools and developing an innovative approach to Mobility in order to facilitate access for students with disabilities and special needs;
• increasing the possibility for students with disabilities and special needs to participate in an EU Mobility Experience;
• supporting enterprise mentors and staff during the WBL experience.

VET4ALL aims at developing the following intellectual outputs:

- IO1 – VET4ALL Didactical Guidelines for training VET Staff working with students with disabilities and special needs;
- IO2 – VET4ALL Training Curriculum for VET Staff working with students with disabilities and special needs in WBL experiences;
- IO3 – VET4ALL In-company Mentors Vademecum - a very practical handbook to be distributed to Mentors in order to support students with disabilities and special needs throughout their internship experiences;
- IO4 – VET4ALL Mobility Vademecum for accompanying persons. The aim of this vademecum is to provide support to the accompanying persons during mobility experiences and to the EU hosting enterprises.

MEETINGS

Kick-off Meeting
04-05 December 2018, Campobasso (Italy)

After a brief introduction of all partners the host partner REATTIVA (IT), together with the coordinator PGT D-r V. Beron (BG), gave an in-
depth presentation of the project, its aims and activities. It was followed by the presentation of the project’s Intellectual Outputs. A specific session was dedicated to the first intellectual output, the “VET4ALL - Didactical Guidelines for VET Staff”, in order to plan its development. Each partner also presented a desk research carried out in the preparation stage of the project regarding its situation about employment measures and WBL experiences for students with disabilities and special needs.

2nd Project Meeting
01-02 April 2019, Gzira (Malta)

The second project meeting was hosted by HERMES (MT) on April 2019. Partners discussed the progress of the project to date, as well as the steps needed in the next months to develop the IO2 - VET4ALL Training Curriculum for VET Staff. Partners agreed that each of them would prepare a module in the upcoming months. Moreover, partners discussed also the development of IO3 – VET4ALL In-company Vademecum.

IO1 – VET4ALL Didactical Guidelines for VET Staff

In the first six months of the project, each partner organization was busy carrying out a focus group involving stakeholders who deal with students with any kind of disability and special needs: teachers/VET staff, job coaches, career and vocational counsellors, etc. In total, 60 people from public and private sectors as well as NGOs were involved in this first stage.

Through this methodology, they highlighted their difficulties when dealing with WBL experiences for students with disabilities and special needs as well as their training needs. According to them, specific difficulties are related to:

1. the behaviour of the young people
2. the training
3. the introduction to the companies

Thanks to this analysis our Spanish team was able to produce a draft of the first intellectual output.

The VET4ALL - Didactical Guidelines for VET Staff, together with the results of the focus group held in each Country were presented at the 2nd project meeting and are almost ready. They will soon be available on our project website in the following languages:

English, Bulgarian, Italian, French, Spanish, Romanian.
Next Steps of the Project

The next big step will be the development of the VET4ALL Training Curriculum for VET Staff which will be based on the results of the focus groups and the Intellectual Output 1 - VET4ALL Didactical Guidelines for VET Staff.

The VET4ALL project partnership will develop 6 training modules and will test them through local testing sessions. At the same time the IO3 – VET4ALL In-company Mentors Vademecum will be developed.

We will tell you more about this in the next issue of the Newsletter.

Find us on

Project website: www.vet4all.org

Partners

The VET4ALL project partnership is composed of:

PGT D-r V. Beron (Bulgaria)
(project coordinator)
www.vtpgt.com

REATTIVA – Regione Europa Attiva (Italy)
www.reattiva.eu

HERMES Corporation (Malta)
www.hermesjobs.com

Şcoala Profesională Specială Samus (Romania)
www.spsamus.ro

Centro San Viator (Spain)
www.san-viator.eus

EfVET (Belgium)
www.efvet.org