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

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A QUICK OVERVIEW OF THE PROJECT

VET4ALL project objectives are focused on the training of teachers, staff and in-company mentors working with students with disabilities and special needs to make their WBL experiences more fruitful and oriented to their transition from school to work.

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.

CURRENT STATE OF THE PROJECT

O1 – VET4ALL DIDACTICAL GUIDELINES FOR TRAINING VET STAFF

On last April, the first Intellectual Output “VET4ALL Didactical Guidelines for Training VET Staff” was finally ready and it is now downloadable from the VET4ALL project website in the following languages: English, Bulgarian, Italian, Spanish, French and Romanian. In the about 30-pages’ guidelines you can find the results of the focus groups implemented in the partner countries, the information gathered by a desk research made in preparation of the project by each partner, as well as tips for teachers when dealing with WBL for students with disabilities and special needs. Thanks to its results, the project team was able to adjust the topics of the second intellectual output, making them more respondent to the real needs of teachers / VET staff.

O2 – VET4ALL TRAINING CURRICULUM FOR VET STAFF

In the meantime, our project team has been busy preparing the second Intellectual Output of the project, the “VET4ALL Training Curriculum for VET Staff”. Led by P1-PGT “D-r V. Beron”, each partner developed a specific module of the curriculum, covering a certain topic. Based on the difficulties and needs pointed out by stakeholders involved in the focus groups of O1, training modules included subjects such as: how to deal with the target group before and during WBL; how to foster company motivation to be involved in WBL; how to investigate the enterprise context and professional needs; how to improve the planning and management of flexible and tailor-made WBL paths; how to evaluate students during WBL, at national and EU level; how to apply Supported Employment measures. A modular structure, the learning outcome approach and the learning-unit design, have been used so that the outcomes
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of each training module become more visible, understandable and transparent for its users (teachers and VET staff) at EU level. The Training Curriculum is now ready and it is in its stage of testing phase by each partner organization through local training courses addressed to teachers and VET staff.

O3 – VET4ALL IN-COMPANY MENTORS VADEMECUM

Parallel to O2, the project team also worked on the third Intellectual Output of the project, the “VET4ALL IN-COMPANY MENTORS VADEMECUM”. Led by P4-Hermes Corporation, who proposed the structure and the design of this practical tool addressed to company mentors and staff, each partner has developed a chapter of the Vademecum. This tool, which aims at supporting the success of WBL experiences for students with disabilities and special needs, provides practical methods, possible resources and useful information for mentors on the following areas: selection and proper matching procedures of the learner with the workplace; occupational health and safety requirements for the learner in the workplace; preparation of the learner before the starting of WBL; designing of the student’s Personal Learning Plan (LOs-oriented); debriefing tools to be used with learners during WBL to help them to reflect on what they have learned; ongoing and final evaluation of the learner and transfer of competences achieved. The Vademecum is now ready and it is in its stage of testing phase by each partner organization through a local 4-hour workshop addressed to in-company mentors.

Annual EFVET International Conference
23-25 October 2019, Ponta Delgada, Azores (Portugal)

The 2019 EFVET International Conference has been a great occasion to reach VET4ALL target groups, disseminate project results and share good practices on Inclusion, WBL and Mobility.

Key note presentations by Business and VET representatives were complemented, during this years’ EFVET Conference, by interactive workshops on a variety of related topics.
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and key priorities facing VET institutions. These offered EfVET, Reattiva and Centro San Viator teams (all participating to the Conference) the opportunity to share VET4ALL approaches and methodologies drawn from the 6 European Consortium countries together with other European good practice models of engagement and cooperation on WBL and Mobility for learners with disabilities and special needs.

3rd Project Meeting
06-07 November 2019, Brussels (Belgium)

The third project meeting was hosted by P6-EfVET (BE) on last November 2019. Partners discussed the progress of the project to date, as well as the steps needed in the next months to develop the IO4 – “VET4ALL Mobility Vademecum for Accompanying Persons of Students with Special Needs”. Partners agreed that each of them would prepare a chapter in the upcoming months. Moreover, partners discussed also the organization and implementation of the VET4ALL Joint Staff Training Event to be carried out on next May 2020 in Sopuerta (ES), the Multiplier Events to be carried out in each partner country and the Final Project Conference to be carried out in Veliko Tarnovo (BG) on the next 16th June 2020.

NEXT STEPS OF THE PROJECT

The next big step will be the development of the “VET4ALL Mobility Vademecum for Accompanying Persons of Students with Special Needs”: a very practical tool to be supplied to teachers/staff who organise and lead a mobility path for students with special needs. The VET4ALL project partnership will develop 8 chapters and will test them through a local 4-hour workshop in all partner countries.

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

Find us on

Project website: www.vet4all.org

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