

Dear colleagues, friends and partners from all over Europe,

Welcome to our 1st Project Newsletter! The Erasmus+ Strategic Partnership **care4mobility** officially started in September 2015. In the following two years, six partner institutions from all over Europe will work together to reach the project's objective – to support VET learner mobilities across Europe in the health and social care sector. This and the following newsletters will inform you on the project's process, results and events on a regular basis. We hope you enjoy reading this first edition and that you maybe gain inspiration for your own work! Please do not hesitate to contact us if you would like to learn more about our project. We are looking forward to hearing from you!

Best wishes

Your **care4mobility** project team

What is the project about? Background and Objectives

The European labour and education market in health and social care professions is growing and changing fast. The high demand of skilled labour can hardly be met in some European countries. Many young workers are already nowadays mobile across borders – trying to find a good job in another European country. At the same time, vocational training continuously has to adapt to modern and fast developing standards in health care.

It is of course an important task and responsibility of vocational training institutes to prepare young people for the labour market in the best possible way. In the Europe of the early 21st century this also means focusing on the international dimension of vocational training more and more, especially in health care. Providing the best possible qualification with a view to the needs and standards in other European countries, motivating young people to be mobile across borders and supporting the acquisition of linguistic and intercultural competences are thus essential tasks for VET institutions.

In this context, European policies have promoted the cooperation of VET institutions from all over Europe for more than ten years, aiming at more transparent qualifications and at establishing a framework, which allows the transfer and accumulation of learning outcomes and the recognition of qualifications across borders. One of the instruments, which provides a set of tools to achieve this aim, is the European Credit System for Vocational Education and Training (ECVET). By defining rules for cooperation in a "Memorandum of Understanding" and by elaborating detailed learning outcomes which are to be acquired during a mobility period, VET institutions are to work together to provide their learners with a chance for high-quality mobility.

Erasmus+, the EU programme for education, training, youth and sport provides the framework for this cooperation and for the mobility of young people in order to learn abroad. Mobility projects, funded by Erasmus+, are an opportunity to foster the intercultural and linguistic competences of the learners. At the same time they help to diminish thresholds for access to the European education and labour market. **It is thus the project's objective to enable and motivate more and more young people to participate in mobility programmes, and at the same time to provide an adequate framework which guarantees high-quality implementation of the learning period abroad.**



Project Kick-off Meeting in Dresden, Germany



The first get-together of the representatives of six institutions from Italy, Turkey, the Netherlands, Poland, Lithuania and Germany took place from 27th to 30th October 2015. A well-balanced programme of working sessions and social activities provided the framework for the exchange of experience and opinions. All twelve participants had the chance to learn many new things, among others about the similarities and differences of the six countries' education systems and about ECVET, which gave the participants a first idea about the quality standards which are to be met in VET learner mobility projects.

As a result of the workshops and lively discussions, the project group laid the

groundwork for future cooperation: qualification profiles that are similar in different countries were identified, student groups that would be good target group for mobilities were defined. Furthermore, the project group determined additional qualification needs, which result from the regular curricula in practice at schools, and that in the future might be covered by mobility programmes. All participants were surprised to find that the qualification needs are very similar in all six countries: Communication skills, in particular between health care staff and doctors, should be improved. The learners should also learn how to better deal with stress and conflicts. The project group also came up with two very concrete suggestions for Units of Learning Outcomes:

- Multicultural Caring
- Working with feelings and strengthening the emotional work in daily care

Aside from the project work, the participants had the chance to discover the beautiful city of Dresden and some of its sights. During the guided tour of the old town, the group discovered the Semper Opera House, the "Zwinger", the famous "Frauenkirche" (Church of our Lady) and the picturesque Canaletto view, the very same scenery which the famous Italian artist Canaletto painted in the 18th century. A visit of the Saxon vinery "Wackerbarth" and its baroque gardens gave an insight into the long tradition of winegrowing in Saxony.



Getting to know ECVET

Have you ever thought about changing your life and moving abroad in order to work in the same field that you currently work in? If yes you should know about the ECVET System. ECVET stands for *European Credit System for Vocational Education and Training* and is a technical framework created by the European Commission to support the mobility of European citizens, facilitating lifelong learning (formal, informal and non-formal learning) and providing greater transparency in terms of individual learning experiences, making it more attractive to move between different countries and different learning environments.



ECVET tools and methodology comprise a description of qualifications in terms of units of learning outcomes, a transfer and accumulation process and series of complementary documents in order to facilitate the recognition of learning outcomes in accordance with national legislation, in the framework of mobility, for the purpose of achieving a qualification.

From a geographical mobility perspective, ECVET aims at facilitating validation, recognition and accumulation of skills and knowledge acquired during a stay in another country, with a view to ensuring that such experiences contribute to the achievement of vocational qualifications. At a systems level, ECVET aims towards better compatibility between the different vocational education and training (VET) systems in place across Europe, and their qualifications. More information at <http://www.ecvet-team.eu/>.

Partner Institutions



WBS TRAINING AG and WBS Schools - Dresden, Germany

Founded in 1979, WBS TRAINING AG (WBS) provides vocational education and training for adults promoted by public national authorities as well as business training for companies, open seminars and European training projects. With more than 800 employees, WBS operates about 150 training centres all over Germany.

Since 2004, WBS is active as a hosting institution in European mobility projects (Leonardo da Vinci and Erasmus+). Over the years, WBS has completed more than 100 of these mobility projects with a wide range of topics: ICT, health care, renewable energies, business studies, and many more. Furthermore, WBS organizes company placements for VET learners in the fields of retail, tourism and gastronomy and health care. Most of mobility projects were hosted by the WBS branch office in Dresden, where a high level of expertise guarantees a smooth and high-quality implementation of all mobility projects. We are looking forward to sharing our experiences and to establishing strong partnerships with schools from all over Europe.

A subsidiary of WBS TRAINING AG is the WBS School for Health Care Professions in Dresden. Our school goes back to the founding year 2010, and we are a young, rapidly growing institution. Our competences are in the fields of health, care and social issues and in different types of

schools such as vocational schools (full time and part time), technical seminars and technical schools. We offer training courses for geriatric nurses, preschool teachers, social assistants and geriatric nurse's assistants. Our target groups are either students, trainees in their first trainee course, retrainees and employees who aim to improve their qualification alongside their work. Our aim is to ensure the individual and professional development and assure entry opportunities to the European labour market.

Contacts Mrs. Marianne Kolpe
Marianne.Kolpe@wbstraining.de
www.wbstraining.de



ERCC – Klaipėda, Lithuania

Public enterprise Education, Research and Consultancy Centre (ERCC) is a not for profit, non-governmental organization founded in 2006 and operating in the fields of informal adult education, research, international mobilities, culture visits, guided tours and projects.

For already nine years, ERCC has been operating as a mobility expert in Lithuania. We have long experience with Leonardo da Vinci Mobility projects, both preparing applications for schools and enterprises and implementing internships in Lithuania according to the sending organization's programme. As hosting organization, ERCC arranges work placements in business companies, public organizations, study visits to different organizations in accordance with the needs of trainees, provides accommodation, gives Lithuanian language, culture and traditions courses, organizes guided tours in Klaipėda, conducts various courses (for instance, about self-confidence in labour market, intercultural communication) for trainees, and evaluates internship success and effectiveness.

Contacts Mrs. Julija Šešeika
ercc.klaipeda@gmail.com
www.ercc.lt



**Centrum Kształcenia
Pracowników Służb
Społecznych – Skarżysko-Kamienna, Poland**

"We teach to care"

Our school's history dates back to 1961, when CKPSS was founded as Medical School in Skarżysko-Kamienna, Poland. Since it was created, the school permanently integrated into the local environment, preparing young people to the profession of nursing. Up to 2001, the school has developed more than 2,300 nurses. In subsequent years, the school expanded its educational offer adapting it to the requirements of the labour market. Since then, about 500 post-secondary graduates have left the school walls and found employment in the structures of health care.



Mobility projects are very popular among our students. They contribute to the popularization of education in medical professions and care, and to a noticeable improvement of professional skills, language and efficiency in the active movement in the labour market. With the implementation of new projects, CKPSS intends to expand European cooperation in the field of education, to transfer the experience gained, and to establish contacts with international institutions working with a similar profile.

Contacts **Mr. Lukasz Plusa**
centrum.skarzysko@gmail.com
www.ckpss.edu.pl



ET LABORA – Bergamo, ITALY

Et Labora is a certified VET and Job Services provider, operating in the field of Initial Vocational Training, Higher Education, Lifelong Learning and Job services in the provinces of Bergamo and Milan, with its nucleus dating back to 1972. Part of the Ikaros Group, Et Labora in this moment hosts 1500 initial vocational training students (secondary education) and 200 higher education students. It

trains over 2000 adults every year and has accompanied more than 1000 people in the labour market, having also supported over 300 children and adults with disadvantage. Et Labora developed an important expertise in the field of teaching and learning with ICT, as well as in formal/informal skills development and competences certifications through ECVET system, being involved in several European projects concerning these issues.

Contacts **Mr. Andrea Bianchi**
andrea.bianchi@fondazioneikaros.org
www.fondazioneetlabora.org



Kanuni Vocational and Technical Anatolian High School – Erdemli, Turkey

WE CARE HEALTH...

Our school, a public vocational high school providing vocational training and education at secondary level, is located in Erdemli district, city of Mersin, Turkey. Our teaching and administrative staff consists of 49 people, mostly teachers, who take care of 508 students and provide them with practical training and theoretical education in fields of nursing, emergency medical staff, radiology and laboratory.

Our school is highly preferred by the students having graduated from secondary schools in the region. After graduating from our school, students can easily be employed by both public and private institutions, hospitals and other medical organizations. Our school provides students with practical training and internship at public hospitals.

We already implemented our first own mobility projects, which offered a great opportunity and experience to our students. So, for the future, we wish to work in this field more and more, and we are looking forward to establishing partnerships with other schools from Europe.

Contacts **Mr. Ozan Guenmez**
o_guenmez@hotmail.com
erdemlikanuni.meb.k12.tr



ROC de Leijgraaf – Veghel, Netherlands

ROC de Leijgraaf Chooses You!

ROC de Leijgraaf is one of ca. 40 regional training centers (ROCs) for senior secondary vocational education in the Netherlands. ROC de Leijgraaf has ten campuses

spread over Boxmeer, Cuijk, Mill, Oss, Uden and Veghel. The college has about 8000 students and 750 employees.

The organization is divided into four departments: Economics and Hospitality, Healthcare and Welfare, ICT and Technology and Adult education and Career Planning and has more than 150 training courses. Most of the courses can be done in 2 learning path-ways, a school-based and a work-based course. Studying at the ROC de Leijgraaf means that there is a strong relation between theory and practice.

ROC de Leijgraaf already has many years of experience in student mobility projects. In the last five years, 350 students participated in EU-funded mobility activities.

The participants were students from three departments: technics, social-healthcare and trade. All students evaluated that they have been growing in their personal skills as independency and self-confidence.

Contacts **Mrs. Anita Diender**
anita.diender@leijgraaf.nl
www.leijgraaf.nl