

COACH

Qualitative approach towards practical training in dual vocational training system

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Newsletter 1st issue

Welcome to the 1st Issue of the COACH Newsletter. This periodical newsletter is part of the information materials published to disseminate and promote the aims, activities and outputs of the COACH— **Qualitative approach towards practical training in dual vocational training system**- Leonardo Learning Partnership, funded by the European Commission. The partnership consists of 3 organizations coming from 3 different countries. Partner organizations:

- **STP TRAINING – Spain**
- **Net-Mex Ltd – Hungary**
- **ZST– Poland**



The project is coordinated by the STP TRAINING CENTER from Spain. This learning

partnership comes to help institutions dedicated to students to implement dual vocational training in their countries.

This **vocational training** model works for years in Germany, Austria, Denmark, the Netherlands, Norway and Switzerland generating very low rates of youth unemployment (<10%). Combines 60% subsidized practices (450 € aprox) and supervised by the company with 40% of academic for two years. The employer ensures that the training is optimal and also knows the applicant that in most cases stays with the company after training.

When an **SME in our country** arises implementation of dual training usually does not have expertise in training, or tools to help them identify practices or how to ensure that the results will meet their needs.

The present project proposes to act in this direction, taking into consideration the other very important aspect, namely the differences in dual vocational training system awareness and practices in various European countries.

COACH aims and objectives

To address the above described challenges of promoting dual vocational training among students, vocational training centers and sme, the present project will envisage the following specific objectives:

- set up of focus groups made of VET experts, teachers, trainers, representatives of the companies implementing practical training for people in initial vocational preparation on the open labour market (companies, workshops, VET institutions),
- implementation of a development programme for members of the focus groups within coaching and mentoring in dual vocational training system,
- preparation and implementation of transnational mobilities for members of the focus groups, that will further strengthen possessed skills and abilities of its direct participants through themed study visits, meetings with experts, workshops and discussions,
- publication, based on the gathered experiences and practices, of a practical guide for personnel responsible for qualitative implementation of practical training processes on the open labour market in dual vocational training system that could be easily accessible for all interested stakeholders through project website or direct contact with the partnering organisations of the COACH project.

COACH target group

The project envisages involvement of staff and learners as well.

Schools

- Create training program (reflecting expectations of the companies)
- School needs to know what to train students about
- It could be good if students could bring something new to company (innovation)
- Promote good attitude in students
- To educate well qualified workers
- To help students to find a job
- Collaborating to reduce unemployment rates of the market
- To mentor student during their practices in the company
- To provide feedback from the company to the school in order to correct deviations

Students

- Know what to know
- Be prepared for job
- High possibility to get an employment after practices
- Get money for themselves
- Get a working reference in the curriculum

Companies

- Help to create / Validate the training program (expectations of the companies) .
- Students bring something new to company (innovation).
- To gain time by normalizing training period and sharing it the school.
- To get specialists (coming from school) in certain areas of knowledge.
- Reduce recruiting costs of companies.

The COACH kick-off meeting

The kick-off meeting of the COACH project has taken place in the period of the 23 - 26th of October 2012, in Barcelona, Spain. The host organization of the meeting was our Spanish partner, the STP Training, who presented the project team valuable examples of dual training system. At the meeting we had representatives from all the partner institutions from the 3 partner countries.

Amongst the aims of the first meeting of the partnership we can mention the importance of organizations getting to know each other in more depth, defining the criteria on the basis of which the partnership will collect the good practice examples of the dual vocational training system, clarifying the participating organization's tasks for the upcoming project phase.

The identified criteria are:

Criterion1 - Country

Criterion2 -Background situation of the company

Criterion3-Background situation of the vocational training center

Criterion4 – What is the problem?

Criterion5 – Solutions

Criterion6- CV, Methods, Competences, Skills

Criterion7- Duration of the training

Criterion8- Results

Criterion9- Sustainability

In the next period the partners will focus on collecting best practice examples in their own countries based on the above criteria. These good practices will be uploaded into a database and will be accessible via the project website (www.dualtrainer-coach.eu) and will be also disseminated through various social media. The next project meeting will be held in the 4-8th of March 2013, in Budapest, Hungary.

For more details and updates on the project please visit the website of the project at:

www.dualtrainer-coach.eu or COACH facebook profile:<http://www.facebook.com/pages/COACHProject/>