

Project “NewWBL: New Models in Work-Based Learning”

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Newsletter no 10



Project Result Dissemination

To reach the New WBL project aims various dissemination activities were implemented during the project lifetime. In the initial project stages dissemination was more for awareness and understanding then in later stages it was dissemination for action. The purpose of project results dissemination was to initiate the change of existing practices based on the main project outputs - NewWBL models and policy recommendations. To bring about a change dissemination events addressed people that were in a position to make the change happen – stakeholders from industries, VET school teachers and students, policy decision makers, etc.

BULGARIA

On April 18, 2018 CCI-Dobrich, Bulgaria organized the event to present the NewWBL project results and policy recommendations to wider audience. The target groups included 8 schools, 1 public authority (Vice Mayor “Education and Humanitarian activities), 1 consultancy company.



Radio interview

In February, 2018 the Secretary General of CCI Dobrich G. Germanov gave a radio interview about the business environment and the economic situation in Dobrich region presenting inter alia NewWBL project results. He highlighted that during the last years the entrepreneurs have expressed concern about a lack of well qualified labour force.

Regarding this problem the New WBL project was presented as an opportunity for the employers, employees and unemployed people to use the models for work based learning as methods for teaching and obtaining skilled workforce. The NewWBL models can help to increase the awareness about the dual education system which is crucial not only for qualifying young people, but also for better use of skills in the workplace.



The Secretary General of CCI Dobrich G. Germanov

NewWBL National conference in Bulgaria

The NewWBL national conference in Bulgaria was held on 27.04.2018 in Sofia. It was attended by 46 participants representing National Agency for Vocational Education and Training (NAVET), Employment Agency (EA), Regional Departments of Education (RDE), employers' associations, vocational schools, companies involved and interested in WBL provision.



Presentations about the NewWBL project objectives and activities, the Common and Country Specific Policy Recommendations were provided, followed by discussion on feasibility of project main results.

The opinions shared by the participants were focused on the high importance of the project for the situation in Bulgaria, where WBL was introduced as a form for acquiring vocational qualification in the VET legislation and its implementation is in initial phase. The project results presented were assessed in general as very useful and supporting the process of making WBL a success in the country. In this context it was stressed that the adopted in the project approach in the models development is adequate and very well reflected in the Policy Recommendations.

As it might be expected the recommendations defined for Bulgaria were subjected to active discussion. The common opinion was that they are in compliance with the national context and that the responsible institutions should undertake actions for their implementation. The positions shared by the President of NAVET, the representatives of EA and RDE gave basis for optimistic expectations in this respect.

One important result of the discussions was the decision taken by the representatives of vocational schools to undertake actions for establishing Association of Vocational Schools in Bulgaria, as a recognized VET stakeholder, and plan for actions was agreed. Thus implementation of one of the country specific recommendations has started.

FINLAND

WinNova organized a local dissemination event on Europe day, 2018 in Pori. The aim of the event was to present EU - funded projects to WinNova staff, students and also general public in our Satakunta region.

NewWBL project implementers presented main project outcomes like Policy recommendations, newsletters and also the Conference video held in Ljubljana. Visitors were interested in model 3 and all the challenges when developing future WBL. The principal of WinNova highlighted the importance of working in close relationships with the local and regional companies due to the significant role the companies play in ongoing reform.

The policy recommendations brochure was a useful resource for those who were interested in strengthening ties with the world of work. The NewWBL stand was attended by 50 visitors.

Dissemination event in WinNova Pori



LATVIA

What are the biggest challenges for VET and companies to implement WBL? How to improve coordination and coherence among the various national level activities and funding to promote WBL? What are the most effective ways to address and involve companies in WBL? How to ensure quality in WBL ?- these were only just a few questions raised and discussed during national seminar “EU projects in support of WBL” organized on the 26th of April in Riga. The seminar addressed more than 70 participants including representatives from VET, Ministry of Education and Science, Latvian Employers’ Confederation, State Education Quality Service, and companies. The seminar was aimed at promoting NewWBL project results and introducing participants with latest developments in support of WBL implementation in Latvia. The international perspective was brought in by Sirkka Wimman from Finland who talked about Individual approach as an effective teaching/learning method in apprenticeship. Presence of various stakeholders provided a good forum for discussion about New WBL policy recommendations. The recommendations were recognized as important guidance document both by practitioners and policy and decision makers.

The seminar participants pointed out that on-going dialogue on WBL issues between different stakeholders can be ensured only if all involved parties have regular meetings, opportunity, to discuss challenges, share experiences and learn about good practices.



National seminar “EU projects in support of WBL” in Latvia

On the 25th of April a group of 40 Polish VET professionals from Švetokryzivskie Vaivodeshire met with representatives from National Centre for Education, Ministry of Education and Science and Latvian Employers’ confederation to learn more about WBL implementation in Latvia. Alongside with other initiatives in support of WBL participants got also insight into Policy recommendations developed in NewWBL project.



Polish VET professionals are introduced to Policy recommendation document

SLOVENIA

In Slovenia the main project dissemination event was the final project conference “New Models in Work-based Learning” organized on March 21st by the NewWBL project lead partner Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Slovenia to present the final project outcomes to representatives of the target groups and stakeholders. (See Newsletter No9 for more information).

On 24-25 April 2018 in Boyana Residence, Sofia NewWBL project manager Grit Ackermann presented the NewWBL project and its outcomes to the EU conference “VET as a first choice” organized in the frames of Bulgarian EU Presidency.

The objective of the International Conference “VET as a first choice” was to contribute to the exchange of good practices on the advantages of VET and to promote VET as a first choice for learners to discover their talents and to advance in learning and career. The conference participants were policy-makers and VET practitioners from all over Europe. The Conference was opened by keynote speeches and a Panel discussion, tackling the topic from different angles and introducing good practice examples presenting advantages and success stories in apprenticeships.



EU conference “VET as a first choice”, 24-25 April 2018, Sofia

Visit NewWBL project website at: <http://newwbl.eu/>

