

WHEEL DONE – Enforced alliances between VET Providers in the car mechanic field

Project Number: 2019-1-RO01-KA202-063463

STRATEGIC PLAN FOR DEVELOPMENT

CECE – CONFEDERACIÓN ESPAÑOLA DE CENTROS DE ENSEÑANZA

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1. Introduction to the Strategic Plan for Development

Main objectives

The main goal of the **Strategic Plan for Development** is to establish suitable actions to present the **Wheel Done** Project as a Learning Opportunity for a period of up to 3 years.

The actions will focus both on mainstreaming and multiplication i.e. the transfer of results to relevant stakeholders (VET schools/centers- social actors-enterprises) for integration into practice, as well as improving relationships among VET teachers/tutors from the school and mentors/tutors from the company to increase knowledge and Foster further use of the relevant results of the project (e.g. Integrated Career Services Pack).

Mapping of stakeholders and the identification of particularly important/influential organizations in Spain is also an important goal.

More specifically, the objectives of the strategic plan for development are:

- to establish and maintain mechanisms for future collaborations in order to develop inter-institutional projects and programs;
- to disseminate project results to stakeholders and encourage interactions/ networking;
- to increase cooperation of schools with NGOs and companies;
- to create programs for tutors in companies;
- to keep up with the technological progress and to improve the work-based learning of students;
- to increase the teaching skills of the teachers and of the tutors in order to make the school more attractive;
- to support students in developing a sense of being a good worker;
- to create more inclusive programs for students, especially the most disadvantaged (minorities, refugees, students coming from rural areas, etc.).

2. Executive Summary

The main aim of the project is to create quality learning opportunities for VET learners based on partnerships between VET institutions and companies, developing human potential, and adapting to market needs and technological progress.

By promoting collaboration with both automotive companies and other VET training centers the project will contribute to developing partnerships aimed at promoting work-based learning in all its forms, as well as the improved capacity of preparation and implementation of projects for all the partners.

The entire project approach is based on the enhanced cooperation between educational institutions and businesses. At the core of the project, there is the inclusion of automotive/car repair companies in order to develop more relevant learning pathways through increased quality of tutoring available at the workplace and enhanced training methods for specialist subjects developed commonly by company tutors and school teachers.

Rationale

The context of the project is based on the importance of developing partnerships with employers, with the aim of promoting work-based learning and practical activity in all its forms, including dual learning, with special attention given to apprentices, through the involvement of social partners, companies organizations/institutions who offer professional training and with a specific interest on the local and regional dimension, in order to produce concrete results.

Since the Lisbon strategy in 2000, the importance of vocational education and training has been underlined as one of the main goals of the EU. Ever since VET is a high priority for EU policy. It contributes to the development of a skilled workforce, critical to the competitiveness of the European Union. It also contributes to social cohesion, and local development, providing young people with opportunities for quality jobs and further training for the employed and unemployed.

Additionally, there is a need for VET curricula to meet better the needs of the labour market. Apprenticeship is a valuable transition phase from VET to the labour market. VET providers must play a dominant role in bridging VET and the business world and VET should extend from technical and professional skills to also develop soft skills, motivation for continuous improvement and lifelong learning. Close cooperation between VET providers and companies has to be boosted. Companies can benefit if involved in VET provision and its quality assurance.

At the EU level, in several countries, meaningful policies are being carried out to:

- increase collaboration/networking between VET providers and companies;
- enhance practical skills and employability readiness of VET graduates;

- improve teaching competencies and capacity to update learning programs to technological progress;
- introduce and develop career counseling programs in VET organizations;
- improve the social image of VET training and professional career pathways.

There is still a large gap in the following critical aspects:

- insufficient career counseling programs fostering the development of students' employment competencies and skills in order to increase the quality of education and relevance for the labour market;
- lack of student-centered learning systems, tailored to their needs;
- almost non-existing collaborative learning;
- insufficient or inefficient partnerships with companies from the car mechanic sector in order to diversify the offer of practical stages, as well as the quality of tutoring at the workplace;
- apprenticeship often do not foster the learning of relevant competences and labour market integration;
- school dropout is very high in the car mechanic sector;
- rate employment of young people in car mechanic sector.

Wheel Done, therefore, aims at promoting work-based learning fostering cooperation between educational institutions and businesses to support the diverse individual learning pathways and to better assess all types of learning outcomes and future learning needs in different learning communities.

Goals

The main challenge for this project is to promote the collaboration between VET providers and companies, enhancing practical skills and fostering the employability readiness of VET graduates.

The project has, in particular, as its main objective, the development of human potential, adapted to market needs and technological progress through the creation of qualitative learning opportunities for VET learners based on partnerships between VET institutions and companies.

This will be carried out:

- Producing a positive impact on the direct target group by increasing their abilities and teaching competencies as well as their capacity to update learning programs to technological progress.
- Enforcing cooperation between different VET providers – social actors, companies, VET institutions.
- Producing a Strategical Development Plan.
- Producing an Integrated Career Services Pack.

This framework combines the use and development of different results and it has as its purpose to manage the common needs identified in the 3 national contexts.

In order to create a work-based learning/practical environment, the Integrated Career Services Pack will be produced based on best practices, instruments to be used in vocational counseling, tutoring, searching for a job, a mini guide for preparing an interview, self-reflection questions, self-evaluation of competences, info about the partners, and learning opportunities in Erasmus+.

The Pack will be available online as an open-source solution and offline as a printed book in order to help the project's scalability and transferability to a wide range of target groups.

The target groups to be addressed by the project are:

- A. Teachers/ trainers.
- B. Tutors/mentors.
- C. Career counselors.
- D. Project managers.
- E. School directors.
- F. Learners.

3. Source of funding

The **Wheel Done** project is co-financed by **ERASMUS+ (2019-1-RO01-KA202-063463)**.

4. Partnership

The Consortium has been specifically set up for the purpose of the project and provides all the necessary skills for the implementation of the work plan. It is a multidisciplinary consortium in which:

- **LICEUL TEHNOLOGIC AUREL PERSU TARGU MURES (Romania)** is the project coordinator. They have experience in carrying out small initiatives to enforce partnerships with relevant actors, such as SMEs, in the car mechanic field at the local and regional level.
- **ASSOCIAZIONE FORMAZIONE PROFESSIONALE DEL PATRONATO SAN VINCENZO (Italy)** has proven experience in professional guidance, job matching, informative service (front office activities and supply of specific job-related materials), advisory service, and cultural mediation.
- **CONFEDERACIÓN ESPAÑOLA DE CENTROS DE ENSEÑANZA ASOCIACION C.E.C.E. (Spain)** counts on its large experience in implementing Erasmus+ Strategic Partnership, which minimizes risks of ineffective management and implementation of the project and brings relevant stakeholders for the WHEEL DONE project.
- **SC VLADADEL SRL (Romania)** approaches the relation between VET schools/centers, students, social actors and companies from a business perspective.

5. Wheel Done as a Learning Opportunity for the Future

After the Erasmus+ program funding, CECE will promote the Wheel Done project as a Learning Opportunity for its network.

CECE represents two target sectors:

- The educational sector, since CECE's network includes 1600 educational centers in Spain.
- The business sector, since CECE is part of the Spanish Confederation of Business Organizations (CEOE).

Our interest lies in the promotion and integration of the project results and outputs into their daily activities, e.g. providing the Integrated Career Services Pack as an additional tool for the benefit of VET students, VET teachers and tutors from the company.

CECE will promote the Integrated Career Services Pack through its social networks profiles and website. Moreover, we will present and promote the Wheel Done project during our General Assembly with all the Federations from the 17 Autonomous Communities of Spain, which takes place once a year, and during the Board of Directors, which takes place twice a year. The General Assembly and the Board of Directors represent valuable tools in order to ensure and promote the Wheel Done project.

It is also expected that the project consortium will also be maintained and will further cooperate in the development of a new Erasmus+ project.

6. Impact

The project has addressed the importance of developing partnerships with employers, with the aim of promoting work-based learning and practical activity in all its forms, including dual learning, with special attention given to apprentices, through the involvement of social partners, companies organizations/institutions who offer professional training and with a specific interest on the local and regional dimension, in order to produce concrete results.

CECE's activities are expected to have a profound impact at the local, regional, national and European levels.

At the local and regional levels, CECE will provide current and future stakeholders and teaching communities with all the results from the Wheel Done project. This will have a significant impact on local and regional communities by fostering cooperation between VET centers and companies and ensuring powerful and long-lasting interest in the project results and tools.

With regards to the European/international level, CECE is a member of several international organizations, in particular, the European Forum of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (EFVET), which will enable us to promote the project to more VET centers and

companies in other EU countries and they will act as a multiplier effect.

The different actions will have a profound impact on all target groups: teachers, tutors, career counselors, project managers, school directors and learners. They will expand their knowledge of good learning practices and this will allow the establishment of a strong community, extending the Wheel Done project within and outside our core target groups.

Finally, the project will raise awareness at the local, regional and European level on the importance of fostering cooperation between VET and companies.

In addition, an impact evaluation is foreseen in order to assess the effectiveness of CECE's strategic plan by the target groups. A survey will be filled in by representatives of the target group who evaluate:

- ADEQUATENESS & APPLICABILITY: Perceived adequateness and applicability of the Integrated Career Services Pack.
- RELEVANCE OF THE CONTENT: Level of satisfaction with content.

7. Conclusion

CECE's Strategic Plan for Development defines a complete and tailored set of instruments and actions for the effective and sustainable promotion of the Wheel Done Project as a Learning opportunity for the next 3 years.