Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union



PROJECT NEWSLETTER ISSUE NO. 4

VET@HOME PILOTING VIRTUAL PRACTICAL TRAININGS FOR CULINARY ARTS VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING (VET)



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JOINT STAFF TRAINING



The 3-days event was organized between 26 and 28th of September 2023 in Dobrich and Varna, Bulgaria and was hosted by the project coordinator International College Ltd.

12 PARTICIPANTS

Representatives of the project partners with their staff - teachers, trainees, experts, etc. (on-site and online)

3 DIFFERENT VENUES

Demonstration hall and equipped training kitchen at IC in Dobrich and Culinary Arts Institute - Varna

All partners were involved in the event as representatives of the Bulgarian, Spanish, Croatian and North Macedonian's teams gathered in Dobrich and Varna, Bulgaria, while the Portuguese team is joined via video-conference in the sessions. The plenary sessions with presentations are life-streamed on the project <u>Facebook</u> <u>page</u> for all interested people.



The aim of the Joint Staff Training (JST) was to tests the process of delivery of distancemode practical training for partial qualification for the profession "Cook" from the trainers' perspective, as well as to present the key project outputs.

The first day agenda is focused on the presentations of 3 of the project's key outputs:



01 - MODEL UNIT-BASED SYLLABUS FOR VIRTUAL PRACTICAL TRAINING COURSES IN VET FOR THE PROFESSION "COOK"

2 02 – E-LEARNING PLATFORM FOR THE DELIVERY OF THE VIRTUAL PRACTICAL TRAINING COURSES FOR PARTIAL QUALIFICATION FOR THE PROFESSION "COOK"

03- PROTOCOL AND GUIDEBOOK FOR TRAINERS AND COMPANY TUTORS IN CULINARY ARTS

The training involving representatives of all project partners (on-site and also online) allows for international exchange and experience in VET and also serves as a networking and relationship-building activity for the participants as like-minded professionals.



B

ROLE-PLAY FOR EXPERIMENTATION WITH VET@HOME E-LEARNING PLATFORM



During the second day of the JST the participants were engaged in the experimentation with the VET@HOME elearning platform.

The project partners were divided into teams and played both the roles of instructors and trainees/students in a virtual practical cooking classes in order to test the functionalities of the e-learning platform created within the VET@HOME project. This was organized in two separate venues (demonstration hall and training kitchen) to simulate the conditions of distant practical training when the teacher/instructor is performing a live-demonstration training center or school, while from the the trainees/students are following the instructions and implementing the tasks in their own homes and kitchens.

Our friends from Portugal also joined via online connection from Povoa De Varzim and helped us to understand in full the capacity and the possibilities given by the platform for sustaining virtual practical training online in a guided mode. They cooked together with the teams in Bulgaria via videoconference connection.





We made some traditional dishes from Bulgaria, Croatia, North Macedonia and Spain, while we were testing our new e-learning platform that was created in the frame of VET@HOME project. The participants prepared a salad, a main dish, a soup and a dessert while rotating their roles as instructors and trainees.

The testing gave us valuable information and feedback what can be further improved in terms of planning, organization and preparation of the training facilities set-up. Following the cooking sessions a concept for a practical training course for VET based on VET@HOME approach was drafted.



CREATION OF DIGITAL CONTENT FOR PRACTICAL VET TRAININGS

On the last day the participants visited Culinary Arts Institute (CAI) at Varna University of Management (VUM) where in the training kitchen of the Institute the video demonstrations for the VET@HME e-learning platform were filmed.

The representatives of the Bulgarian partner Leantick who implemented the video-shooting of the demos together with the chef-instructors from CAI explained the specifics of the planning, organization, set-up and conducting of video-demonstrations in a proper way so they may be used for educational purposes and serve as cooking classes in a distance mode of delivery.





The participants also had a Master Class with Chef Hugue Boutin – Director of CAI at VUM, and chef Stanislav Kubarev during which they explained the processes behind the camera while designing the video-presentations and demonstrations, and gave some guidelines for the development of instructions for the trainees who follow the virtual training for Cook.

Finally, the participants were involved in the preparation of their own dishes, learned some professional cooking techniques (such as cooking sous-vide, making foam from baked bell pepper and baking brownie with homemade ice-cream), managed to discuss in the afternoon the main difficulties experienced by VET trainers when delivering training and/or guidance on-line and were awarded with certificates for their participation in the JST in Bulgaria.





WHAT'S NEXT?

Now, after having the trainers' point of view and feedback on the VET@HOME elearning platform, we turn to the trainees to test the virtual practical courses and collect their opinion and perspective on the future exploitation of the output.

To this end, in all project countries a groups of 10 pilot trainees is formed and invited to test the system and share their experience in view of possible improving and fine-tuning of the platform.



In the last weeks of the project a serries of 5 **Multiplier Events** will be organized – one event in each partner country to present the project outputs.

- National Conferences are organized in: Bulgaria (Sofia and Varna), Spain (Zaragoza), Portugal (Povoa de Varzim), Croatia (Zagreb) and North Macedonia (Tetovo).
- Each event can accommodate up to 30 people representatives of the project target groups and interested persons and organizations.

Each event will be life-streamed for the wider audience on the Internet.

For more details about the event in your country, please contact your local partner or follow us on the project website and facebook page for news.

We will close the project with the Final (6th) TPM and Project Sustainability Workshop that will be held in Tetovo on October, 19-20th 2023.

PROJECT PARTNERS







Croatia



Spain



ProAnni

Portugal



Republic of North Macedonia

Bulgaria



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