

Apprenticeship Inter-network (ApplInterN): Bringing together VET institutions and enterprises through a Network of Career Hub

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GREECE, ITALY, SPAIN, BELGIUM

ApplInterN aims to improve the efficiency of vocational and educational training by matching supply and demand in the labour market.

Through the development of a platform that connects companies, trainees, graduates, and training centres at local, national, and European levels, the aim is to facilitate access to the labour market and improve youth employment through the exchange of information and knowledge (on the needs of the labour market) due to the collaboration between the different agents.

In this platform, specific occupations have been emphasised to align the available workforce with market demand. Notably, roles linked to the green transition have been spotlighted for particular attention and focus.

Geographical area

Greece, Italy, Spain, Belgium

Period of implementation

01 September 2020 – 31 August 2023

Scope of the practice

The practice mainly focuses on apprenticeships, but it can also be directed to Initial Vocational Education and Training (IVET) and Continuing Vocational Education and Training (CVET).

Introduction and context

The project “Apprenticeship Inter-network: Bringing together VET institutions and enterprises through a Network of Career Hubs” (ApplInterN) aims to strengthen the links between Apprenticeship, VET, and corporate responsibility, inviting employers to offer apprenticeships and jobs to VET students and graduates, as well as to share information about the national and international labour markets’ state-of-play, current skill requirements, and occupational/sectoral developments (including such key issues as reskilling and upskilling). Employers can thus play an active role in the preparation of students and graduates for their future careers. Over the past few years, apprenticeships have emerged both as a relevant template for Vocational Education and Training (VET) and as a successful model to meet labour market demands for a skilled workforce. Moreover, since the integration of young people into the labour market constitutes a key EU priority, apprenticeships have been widely and officially recognised as one of the best ways to attain this aim. A closer collaboration between apprenticeships/VET schools and institutions, enterprises, social partner institutes, and municipalities can effectively promote apprenticeships as a means of enhancing young people’s employability and shaping a well-structured, efficiently functioning and inclusive labour market.

Therefore, the project focused on the creation of an online platform titled “Apprenticeship Inter-Network”, hosting three national Career Hubs (Greek, Italian, and Spanish).

Each Career Hub (CH) facilitates the students’ and graduates’ search for apprenticeships or jobs through relevant databases, enhances their competences and skills by offering guidance and organising or announcing special events (seminars, webinars, information events, study visits, presentations, job fairs, etc.), supports their contact and collaboration with employers and other labour market stakeholders, ensures their familiarisation with important sectoral issues, etc.

It is to be noted that, within the context of the project, VET-related institutions and associations, social partner institutes, Municipalities, and Chambers aimed to contribute to the efficiency of Career Hubs by inviting local enterprises, employers, and employer associations to join the CH databases in order to be directly networked with apprentices, graduates, and future employees.

The partnership is composed of the following organisations:

- -DYPA, the Greek Public Employment Service (Greece);
- Municipality of Amaroussion (Greece);
- STEGI S.A. subsidiary of the Hellenic Federation of Enterprises (SEV) (Greece);
- IME GSEVEE, the Research Institute of GSEVEE, the Hellenic Confederation of Professionals Craftsmen and Merchants (GSEVEE) (Greece);
- PIMEC – Micro, Petita i Mitjana Empresa de Catalunya, employers’ confederation of SMEs and the self-employed of Catalonia (Spain);
- ROMA CAPITALE, Municipality of Rome (Italy);
- UNITELMASAPIENZA The University of Rome (Italy);
- European Vocational Training Association, network organisation (Belgium).

Key activities and outcomes

The key deliverable of the project is the creation of the AppInterN online portal, which aims to bring VET students and graduates closer to labour market stakeholders and employers. Although apprenticeships are generally regarded as an important method of labour-market integration for young people, there still seems to be some difficulties in bringing the main interested parties closer together: thus, the central concept of the AppInterN project is to establish an effective network between young VET students and graduates on the one hand, and employers and other labour market stakeholders on the other.



SOURCES

[AppInterN website](#)