



virtual Work-Based Learning

to simulate real experience
in VET digital training

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NEWSLETTER

Issue 1, 5/2021



Introduction of the vWBL project

vWBL - Virtual Work-Based Learning, a European project funded by Erasmus+, is focused on providing tailor-made solutions to the real needs of the VET systems in the forthcoming European post-pandemic societies, with special regards to the Work-Based Learning (WBL) as key component of the VET having been particularly affected by the social distancing imposed also to VET teaching during the pandemic.

vWBL will propose not only virtual situations allowing to transfer alternative experience to practise when there will be obstacles to the real work-based learning.

But the vWBL project will particularly operate in the competences of the VET teachers to be aware of the potential effectiveness of the virtual vWBL (virtual Work-Based Learning) and develop competences in creating their own impacting simulations of WBL.

The project will propose specific training to VET teachers on virtual vWBL.

Furthermore, the vWBL training will pay special attention to the digital divide issue, including in the training all necessary support to inform the VET teachers about the issue of creating vWBL that will be usable also by students having poor digital connection or device.

In this way, the project will contribute to enhance inclusion and prevent the risk that categories of learners would be disadvantaged or excluded from learning.

Partners

EPRALIMA Escola profissional do Alto Lima - Cooperativa de interesse publico e responsabilidade limitada, Portugal

Kuressaare Ametikool, Estonia

JANUS Ltd, Italy

University of Naples Federico II, Department of Political Science, Italy

International Platform for Citizen Participation, Bulgaria

Eurosucccess Consulting, Cyprus

OIC Poland Foundation, Poland

WHAT WE HAVE BEEN UP TO

Collection of best practice

In addition to a survey, vWBL partners will search for samples of best practice.

The samples of best practice focus on collecting best practice that is useful, suitable and relevant to the target group of students/learners.

The best practice for vWBL focuses on:

- existing best practice training programs / training modules / other forms of training materials for students in virtual work-based VET
- existing best practice in-company training programs / training modules / other forms for training
- existing best practice materials, programs, initiative, policies in the field of virtual work-based VET
- existing samples of best practice to understand expertise in virtual work-based teaching and learning



Online KoM of the project partners

vWBL started on 1st September 2020. The kick-off meeting of the project partners was held online on 14th January 2021.

The agenda of the meeting included the presentations of the partners responsible for each project activity and outputs, with detailed discussions of the participants, especially on the countermeasures to put in practice to ensure the progress of the project in the current pandemic situation in the project countries.

Monitoring meeting

In the framework of the project vWBL – Virtual Work-Based Learning to simulate real experience in VET digital training a monitoring meeting took place on in April, with all partners to discuss the situation and to evaluate the progress of the project.

Survey in the project countries

The team implementing the vWBL - Virtual Work-Based Learning to simulate real experiences in digital VET training will conduct a large-scale survey in Portugal, Estonia, Italy, Bulgaria, Cyprus and Poland, with the aim of identifying new needs and problems in VET digital training. The project team will investigate the potential changes of the economic and social priorities and the related needs/expectations in VET training in the post-pandemic situation, the characteristics of which are merely forecasted at the time this proposal is prepared.



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Second transnational meeting in the scope of the vWBL Project

On May 21st, an online meeting took place in the framework of the project vWBL.

At the beginning of the project a comprehensive questionnaire was created to identify digital needs and issues in vocational education and training (VET), involving teachers and VET experts in Portugal, Italy, Estonia, Bulgaria, Cyprus and Poland.

The aim of the questionnaire is to investigate potential economic changes and social priorities and needs and expectations related to VET in a post pandemic situation.

The study carried out will be published very soon on the project website (<https://www.vwbl.eu/>).

Some results have emerged, for example, 90% of respondents had no previous experience with distance learning but along the pandemic period they improved their expertise on online training.



NEXT STEPS

The Guide for VET teachers

In the coming months vWBL partners are going to design The Guide for VET teachers to virtual WBL, based on the results of the survey.

The Guide will be published in English and all partner languages. It will be available on the project website, open access, printable and downloadable.

Evaluation of the Guide by national experts

The National Experts who took part in the research phase of the project will have an opportunity to evaluate the Guide.

More information:

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<https://twitter.com/virtualWBL>



The vWBL partners:



FEDERICO II



Polska Fundacja Ośrodków Wsparcia Rozwoju Gospodarczego „OIG Poland” w Lublinie



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