



Danube Transnational Programme **Learning by Doing**

“LEARNING BY DOING” PROJECT

**“Targeted capacity building of VET partnerships
in the Danube Region for the effective modernisation of VET systems”**

WP6-POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

Deliverable D: 6.2.1 Memos on High-level Policy Roundtables

**Prepared by: ERDF PP7 MES-Regional Department of Education, Vratsa,
EDRF PP5-CPI-Slovenia**

Bulgaria

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Contents

1. Introduction	3
2. Basic information on high-level roundtables.....	4
3. Summary of policy recommendations	5
4. Sustainability of results and further developments	

1. Introduction

According to the description of WP6, Act.6.2 Policy recommendations (p.94 AF) the main purpose of the activities under this work package is to transfer the lessons learnt and conclusions drawn through the process to the policy level via regional and national strategies, elaborated jointly by each local VET partnership as stakeholders. In addition, policy recommendations will make proposals on concrete legal changes, regulatory modifications regarding the way of integration of WBL schemes into national VET system within the existing regulatory frameworks (i.e. new framework in the countries where legislation does not exist and revision in countries where it does).

Strategies are discussed at the high-level policy roundtables ending with ceremonial pledges, which state the way forward in the regional/national VET modernization (e.g. launching a smaller or bigger modification in the legislation, incorporating any new elements of WBL in vocational education).

This document will describe the results of the each partner country that will be integrated directly into the daily practices and organisational structure of the PP institutions either in forms of concrete legal text or by creating the necessary regulatory frameworks regarding the integration of WBL schemes into VET system.

2. Basic information on high-level roundtables

Country, venue, agenda and date of High-level roundtable:

Bulgaria
Ministry of Education and Science
Bul..Dondukov 2
7th floor, meeting hall 2

23.04.2019 since 13h. till 16h

Agenda

1. Opening the Round table
2. Presentation of the Strategic model for modernization of WBL in VET and regional model for dual education, developed and tested by RDE-Vratsa and stakeholders at regional level
3. Presentation of the policy recommendation at regional level- results from 1st and 2nd stakeholders meetings
4. Presentation of the position papers submitted by high level stakeholders based on the Strategic model : 4 position papers – Ministry of Education and Science- VET Directorate, National VET Agency, Association “Parents”, BCCI
5. Working in small groups for discussing the submitted proposal and adding to them. Open discussion
6. Presentation of final policy recommendations and main areas of intervention for including in the pledge document
7. Closing the Round table

Partner organizations and stakeholders institutions, participants in the RT:

PP6 – CCI-Vratsa-2
PP7-MES-RDE-Vratsa -2
Stakeholders: 22
Ministry of Education and Science
Domino project
Ministry of Labour and Social Policy
Ministry of Economy
NAVET
Austrian Embassy
Bulgarian-Swiss Chamber of Commerce
Association “Parents”
VET schools
Independent Teacher Union
BCCI
Industry Watch Group

Strategic documents, discussed within the stakeholders meetings:

Strategic Model for modernization of WBL in VET

On 23.04.2019 in the Ministry of Education and Science took place the high level Round table discussion with 22 stakeholders for final discussion and proposal of recommendations regarding the Strategic model for modernization of WBL in VET in Bulgaria.

At the end of March Bulgarian partners sent to all high level stakeholder institutions and organisations, according to the list of stakeholders, the strategy document and template of position paper. Ministry of Education and Science-VET Directorate, Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Association "Parents" sent us their position papers.

During the Round table discussion the manager of LbD project for Project Partner 7(RDE-Vratsa)- Mrs. Evdenova presented the main challenges that we met during implementation of the project and drafting the Strategic model for modernization of WBL in VET. The main achievement for Bulgarian partners was the involving Vratsa region in Dual education providing regions. Regional model of cooperation in planning the WBL in VET and preparation of in Participants in the discussion were representatives of: MES, DOMINO project, Ministry of labour and social policy; Ministry of Economy; NAVET, Austrian embassy; Independent Teachers' trade union; Industry Watch Group;

The contribution at national level was the involving the high level stakeholders in study visits, staff exchange and sharing the experience of LbD partners and achievement at project level enhanced the examples and experience gained within Domino project for further improvement the legal framework and policies in the field of WBL in VET in Bulgaria.

RDE and BCCI were involved in the working group of stakeholders by MES for drafting the legislative proposals for WBL in VET .

Strategic model for modernization of WBL in VET, prepared within LbD will be include as an integral part of the national strategy for modernization of VET.

3. Summary of policy recommendations on the stategic document:

Please, describe the conclusions of the High-level round table discussion in your country

The Round table conclusions are that Learning by Doing project has played positive role in the process of modernization of WBL in VET in Bulgaria by involving Northwest Bulgaria in the process and contributed for overcoming the delay in introducing the WBL. The contribution of LbD project with specific good practices, staff exchange and study visits was recognized by all stakeholders, incl. the Commission at MES

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Creating conditions for effective carrier orientation of students and youths through:

- Improvement of the regulation and development of National program for carrier orientation that can guarantee in long term period successful professional and personal realization.
- Building effective partnership networks and fruitful interactions in the process of carrier orientation

2. Implementation of sequence policy for guarantee the quality of the vocational education and training through:

- Setting standards and mechanism for quality control of the VET on the job, meeting EU norms and requirements for achieving competitiveness
- Elaboration of curricula and programs with active participation of the business, directed towards development of competences in the young people that make them competitive on the labour market.
- Modernization of the technical basis and IT infrastructure
- ■ Ensuring the periodical qualification of the VET teachers in real working environment within the common trainings with business for development of the capacity for VET management in conditions of close cooperation with all stakeholders.

3. Shared commitments and responsibility between main stakeholders for implementation of modern and effective VET corresponding to the needs of the business through:

- Building common info systems, based on the real data and guaranteed system connection between stakeholders for effective and efficient analyzing, forecasting and planning the WBL in VET according the labour market demands
- Revision and updating of the List of Professions in Vocational Education and Training.
- Being active and committed to implementing relationships and interactions at all levels.

4. Sustainability of results and further developments

Please, describe your national pledge and launching ceremony. How do you plan to share the knowledge acquired in your organizations and on local/regional/national and international level?

The final conference with pledge launching ceremony was held on 28.05.2019 in Vratsa with participation of stakeholders, district governor of Vratsa, deputy Minister of Education and Science of Bulgaria. About 110 representative took part in the final conference- VET school principals, teachers, mentors, VET students, companies, involved in WBL, public administration.

Agenda:

1. Opening of the final conference
2. Presentation of the project results and added value for Bulgarian partners-regional model
3. Presentation of the increased role of companies in WBL in BG
4. Discussion on the presented results
5. Presentation of the pledge document and signing
6. Video about the Bulgarian partners achievements in LbD
7. Closing the conference

Capacity building process will continue and the Pilot model for cooperation between stakeholders will be improved with new initiatives and activities. Thanks to the recognition by the Ministry of Education and Science, RDE-Vratsa will continue to develop the road map and share experience with other 27 RDEs in Bulgaria for introducing the model. On the other hand CCI-Vratsa will continue working for more active participation of the companies in the process of development of training programs, exam programs and improvement of practical training in WBL in VET. MES has assigned an expert to be representative of Bulgarian partners in the Danube WBL Observatory and networking is the right way to acquire new knowledge, harmonize the standards and improve the quality of WBL in VET for Bulgaria.