

ILP4WBL - Individual approach and individual learning plan in WBL: Training for WBL tutors 2018-1-LV01-KA202-047004

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Why is individual learning plan important?

An individual learning plan (ILP) in work-based learning (WBL) context is connected to official state-recognized qualifications. These qualifications are based on learning outcomes and the student's individual study pathway can include different ways to achieve these learning outcomes. It also establishes what a learner wishes to achieve and identifies the learning needs in terms of knowledge, skills or competences. It needs to be considered that learners have different needs and these needs might change over time.

For the VET pathway to better match the learners' needs a learning plan has to be created for each student separately. To ensure that this plan can be implemented and resourced, it has to be agreed on by all the parties concerned - VET tutor from school, VET tutor from company and student. Inviting the students to take part in developing their ILP's allows for shared responsibility and active participation in the learning process from start to finish. Students begin to feel the need to learn because the learning objectives become their own personal goals and they tend to take responsibility and control over their own studies. Therefore ILP is seen as an important element in building an effective WBL system where students become partners in the teaching-learning process, rather than passive recipients. It is essential to prepare VET tutors and company tutors to implement individual approach as it demands much closer professional relationship between the tutors and the trainee.

LOOKING BACK

ILP4WBL entering the final phase of the project

ILP4WBL, a two-year Erasmus+ Strategic partnerships project aimed at developing and strengthening the skills of VET teachers and WBL tutors in the use of individual approach and individual learning plan in WBL and promoting their mainstreaming by offering support tools and resources, is moving forward and enters its final phase.

ILP4WBL proudly presents the following achieved milestones up to date:

Project consortium meetings

ILP4WBL partnership believes in shared effort to deliver quality outcomes, which is greatly supported by having the privilege to hold face-to-face meetings. So far 3 project partners' meetings have been held in Riga (LV), Kaunas (LT) and Espoo (FI). Sufficient time allocated for the meetings has promoted partners' shared ownership over the project outcomes, allowed sharing the results of activities and planning discussions, as well as introducing the partners with the latest updates in national VET systems. The discussions among different level organizations represented by the ILP4WBL partnership on adoption of similar approaches in WBL also contributed to building a common area for collaboration in VET within the Baltic Sea region.



Training programme for VET tutors on IA/ILP and the training in Finland

ILP4WBL project offers an innovative training programme "Individual Approach and Individual Learning Plan in WBL" - applicable for international training and national training of VET/WBL tutors.

The training programme was piloted in a 4-day training event in October 2019 in Espoo, Finland. The training was facilitated by the trainers' team from Omnia, The Joint Authority of Education in Espoo Region, and brought together 24 participants from consortium partner institutions in Latvia, Lithuania and Finland. The feedback received was overwhelmingly positive with regard to the content relevance, structure of the programme and the performance of the trainers. The majority of participants emphasized the following topics and aspects - individual guidance and assessment in WBL, practical methods and tips for planning and implementation of IA as particularly captivating and useful for their teaching practice.

Overall it can be concluded that the training was of high quality and relevant content. There was a balance between the theoretical components of Individual approach in WBL and tools for practical application. The presence of international teams and the discussions held during the event contributed to a more coherent approach and understanding how ILP/IA can be integrated into existing VET pathways. The group of the lead trainers will ensure the transfer of the ILP4WBL methodology within their respective institutions and on the national scale.



Blended VET student mobilities LV-LT-FI

In the beginning of this year 6 Latvian, Lithuanian and Finnish VET students acquiring welder, joiner, mechanical engineer, catering service specialist, chef and carpenter professions from project partner schools took part in the traineeships abroad. The job placements at WinNova and restaurant Kalliohovi in Finland, Dižozols Plus and restaurant Ferma in Latvia and Peikko Lithuania and Kaunas TVEC in Lithuania were aiming to compare ILP and individual approaches, the challenges with ILP development and implementation, experiment with using ILPs between different countries. Also to apply in the practice the skills of trained tutors in using ILP and individual approach in WBL. The mobilities were a success and their results and participants' feedback will be shared through case descriptions and video interviews.

Creation of OER's

ILP4WBL partners have developed and gathered a suite of open educational resources (OER's) about Individual approach in theory and practice. Online resources include different types of informative and methodological materials related to such aspects of implementation of individual approach in WBL as planning, preparation, guidance and assessment of the placements. The OER materials are made available in the online platform www.qualityplacements.eu, which provides a resource compilation for high-quality WBL for tutors from VET schools and companies, VET school managers, chambers and regulators in EU.

EXCITING MONTHS AHEAD

ILP4WBL partnership is excited to launch the final phase of the project which foresees holding a series of dissemination events in the partner countries to spread the gained experience to stakeholders and wider public. There will be a possibility to learn in more detail about the ILP4WBL project and its outcomes by attending any of these events:

National workshops

Training workshops will be organized by partner organizations for their colleagues and stakeholders as a smaller-scale replications of the ILP4WBL training course tailoring it to the national context and the participants' needs. Through interactive workshops the WBL facilitators will improve their skills on how to develop and implement individual learning plans and individual approach and how to further guide company tutors.

Lithuanian partners Kaunas Technical VET Centre and Kaunas Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Crafts jointly organized the workshop on December 10, 2019 bringing together 42 participants.



Multiplier events and Final conference

The multiplier events in partner countries and the final conference in Latvia will serve as a platform for sharing the success stories and lessons learnt during the ILP4WBL project, interacting and exchanging with fresh ideas among identified stakeholders of the project and for further promoting the discussion