

International Guidance and Transfer Conference in Vienna, Austria

Only one final conference in September 2024 was planned in the project application. However, during the first year of the project, it became clear that several conferences were necessary because:

- The establishment and development of the project's 7 CoVEs require intensive exchanges and extensive consultations with regional institutions and other stakeholders.
- There is a great need among the project partners to exchange experiences with each other in addition to the workshops and to organise consultations with external experts.
- The wealth of project results requires several consultation and transfer events to be able to carry out detailed presentations, discussions and implementation planning.

The organisation of additional advisory and transfer conferences was listed, justified and approved in the annual interim reports. In connection with the budget reallocation, the organisation of four international advisory and transfer conferences was requested and finally approved:

- In 2021 in Panevėžys, Lithuania.
- In 2022 in Vienna, Austria.
- In 2023 in Budapest, Hungary.
- In 2024 in Riga, Latvia.

In Vienna, a train-the-trainer seminar 'For teachers to conduct dual vocational training' and a project workshop with all project partners were held on 17-20 May 2022 as part of the 3LOE project. This was accompanied by the following:

- 1) A half-day consultation and transfer conference on 18 May 2022, at which
 - the 3LoE project and the concepts, objectives and tasks of the 7 CoVEs were presented and discussed.
 - existing project results were presented, discussed and transferred.
 - results from five other projects that are highly relevant to the 3LoE project were presented and transferred.
- 2) A half-day workshop on the following two main topics was organised on 19 May 2022:
 - Implementation of project results and utilisation by the transfer recipients and project partners as ongoing services for the respective target groups with funding through participant and consultancy fees.
 - Priority topics and tasks for the CoVEs' future work in the medium and long term.

The conference was attended by 57 people and the workshop was attended by 50 people, namely:

- ✓ All project partners from 7 countries.
- ✓ Representatives of the associated partners of the 3LoE project from 13 countries.
- ✓ Regional and innovation promoters as well as politicians and administrators.
- ✓ 9 experts from vocational schools, further education institutions, innovation promoters and universities from Poland, Latvia and Ukraine, who performed advisory tasks. They did not receive a fee for this but were reimbursed for their travel expenses up to a maximum of €500.00 each.

The participants and all project partners rated the organisation of the conference and workshop very positively. The project consortium therefore decided to organise both events again in Budapest in 2023.

The following results, suggestions and proposals were obtained during the workshop:

1) Priority topics and tasks for the future work of the CoVEs:

- ✓ Circular society/economy
- ✓ Waste Management
- ✓ Different models of cooperation between companies and young people
- ✓ More inclusive SMEs – more opportunities for disabled people
- ✓ Industry 4.0 – how to encourage SMEs start thinking about industry 4.0
- ✓ Digitalisation and new work organization models
- ✓ Green SMEs – development of methodology for evaluation of green growth of a SME
- ✓ Refugees
- ✓ resilience and crisis management
- ✓ Attract women to trad male professions eg plumber
- ✓ Motivate to save resources
- ✓ Climate change
- ✓ Grey water solution
- ✓ Circular economy
- ✓ Ukraine- new projects
- ✓ IOT / digital transformation software
- ✓ Cyber security

2) What makes project work successful?

- ✓ Strong involvement of the partners
- ✓ Respect of different cultures
- ✓ Transfer should be started at the beginning.
- ✓ Profitable business model
 - project idea
 - identifying market segments
 - quality assurance
- ✓ Sustainability

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- ✓ Impact on the target groups and beyond
- ✓ Commitment of project participants and target groups
- ✓ Entering the market – growth of profit
- ✓ Composition of project partnership / Balance partnership
- ✓ Added value of the project results
- ✓ Common attitude / values professional interests
- ✓ Teamwork and strong leadership
- ✓ Ownership of the idea, before you start
- ✓ Continuity
- ✓ All participants should be involved very early
- ✓ The context factors
- ✓ Too late to set up a project when you need it
- ✓ Essence of Project Work
 - Joining ideas
 - Implement ideas
 - interest of local business.
- ✓ Group understanding of a project
 - internationalisation
 - small group made efficiency
 - schedule
 - budget
 - cooperation with schools
- ✓ Good understanding of tasks and goals
- ✓ Controlling, continuous evaluation
- ✓ Flexibility
- ✓ Soft factors – team spirit

3) Improvements in the transfer and long-term utilisation of results

- ✓ Networking
- ✓ Needs research and market analysis
- ✓ Identify demand and opportunities
- ✓ Manual / book
- ✓ Promote idea
- ✓ Trainings
- ✓ Staff development
- ✓ Communication in & out
- ✓ open access of the result - share knowledge product and effort
- ✓ challenge complexity for SMEs
- ✓ involvement of community
- ✓ How to make a project sustainable
 - government support
 - sponsors
 - self-promotion
 - change makers as business promoters
 - commercialisation

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