



EU.EM.NET: European systematic approach for employers' engagement to anticipate skills requirements

and support quality assurance (QA) in VET

Project No. 527838-LLP-1-2012-1-SK-LEONARDO-LNW

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EU.EM.NET Employers Forum Report WP7

Country: Bulgaria

Partner: Vocational school of tourism "Prof. d-r Asen Zlatarov"

Date: 07. 10. 2015

Prepared by: Lyubomir Georgiev

Contact: chubaka_bb@yahoo.com

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Prof. D-r Asen Zlatarov Vocational school of Tourism - Burgas

Address: Stefan Stambolov 53,8000 Burgas

Tel.: 056/54 41 41, e-mail: toh_bs@abv.bg

<http://pgtbs.com>



Section 1: Organisation

1.1 Selection of the invited

Selection of the invited

The VET School is a wanted partner by the employers in the tourist's guild, as evidenced by co-operation with the Regional Chamber of Tourism in Burgas Region. In this respect, the Prof. D-r Asen Zlatarov Vocational school of Tourism represents a bridge between the Vocational education and training and labour market need for skilled employees as the School is dealing directly with Employers' associations and getting information and requests for improvement of learning process from "first hand", i.e. directly from employers operational in the Tourism and Hospitality sector. We have approached every person personally and clarified the goal of the meeting. Our choice was influenced by our desire meeting to be as much productive.

1.2 Type of event, venue, logistics, duration

Type of event: meeting

Venue: Restaurant "Mladost" - Burgas

Date: 06. 10. 2015

Duration: 5 p. m. – 8 p.m.

Description: We have chosen restaurant "Mladost", because of the fact it is well known among the employers, the easy access, and rich material base. The format was enough for reaching our purpose. The duration was suitable with the crowded program of our participant



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Section 2: Content

2.1. Course of action

Please describe the course of action of the Employers Forum organized by you/your organisation. Be as detailed as possible.

This meeting was a natural extension of the workshop held on first of April, 2015. Employers were encouraged to express their opinion on the progress of the project, the established quality indicators, as well as share opinions on pressing issues and problems. After their registration, they received promotional materials and heard a report on the project so far, they were familiar with the outcome of the efforts of our colleagues from Croatia and Turkey.

Presented were all the documents made within the project and the vision of its future and stability. The site of the project was the next focus of the meeting before completion of the questionnaire developed on indicators. After we had discussion and time for proposals and new ideas. Meanwhile the conversations unnoticeably moved to the table, where in a friendly atmosphere new topics were discussed.

2.2 EU.EM.NET products/deliverables presented

During the activity widely the project website was used, pre-workshop questionnaire on indicators for employer's engagement was filled in by the participants. A lot of promotional materials with the logo of the project were presented.

2.3 Feedback of the participants

Without hesitation all employers claim that professional development of their work force is really important. According to them in the beginning of tourist season every employee should graduate a language course, some even hire foreign students in order to overcome the language barrier. In some places individual plans for every employee are available.

All participants assure they investigate the skill needs of the labor market, and gather information from previous jobs, interviews, schools, dialog between different companies, employers organization.

In relation to the professional development of their workforce they take part in tourist exchange in Bulgaria and abroad, prognosis for development of the sector are also used. There are some controversial opinions about the influence on content of textbooks, programs, public plans for the sector. Most people think the stated system is too conservative and it is a real challenge to change it.

2.4 Partner's (organiser's) experience

Please describe your experience from the point of view of the host of the event.

Vocational school of tourism "Prof. d-r Asen Zlatarov" also organizes an annual Job Fair where employers meet our students and their parents to arrange work for students during their summer vacation. Moreover, every year the VET School participates in the annual tourist exchange, which is run by the regional tourist organization.



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The School is involved in meeting and discussions as well as forums aiming at necessity for increasing the cooperation and networking between VET establishments and employers of the T&H sector and focusing on more effective involvement of the employers in the overall education process and skills forecasting for T&H sector in Bulgaria.



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Section 3: Summary (for dissemination)

Please provide a brief summary (approximately one page – when, where, who, why, what, results & recommendations) with the title „EU.EM.NET Employers Forum in [insert country or town in case of multiple workshops/events in one country]“ about the workshop/event for dissemination purposes. The text will be accompanied with logos (project, LLP, partners) and 1-2 pictures from the event and used for the website (but not only).

EU.EM.NET Employers Forum in Burgas, Bulgaria held on the sixth of October 2015, Restaurant “Mladost”

An EU.EM.NET Employers forum was organized by Vocational school of tourism “Prof. d-r Asen Zlatarov”

Prof. D-r Asen Zlatarov Vocational school of Tourism was established in 1959 as a place of VET education with main focus on meeting the labour market needs for skills, knowledge and competencies by the labour force in the T&H sector. The School is one of the oldest educational establishments in Bulgaria having proven record in VET area as one of the best in Bulgaria. Although the School’s mission remains also today, in nowadays, it is very much focused on close collaboration with the employers’ associations and employers themselves for increasing the knowledge level and meeting the current challenges as regards the learning outcomes and delivery of highly qualified labour force for the sector.

Prof. D-r Asen Zlatarov Vocational school of Tourism is famous for its traditions in training and preparation of specialists in the area of hospitality and restaurant industry. Our graduates are welcome in all tourist regions of Bulgaria, especially in the area of Black Sea basin, all districts of Burgas Region as well as in other touristic destinations in Europe.

More than 20 employers took part in the forum where they had the possibility to share opinions on pressing issues and problems, to receive promotional materials and heard a report on the project” EU.EM.NET: European systematic approach for employers’ engagement to anticipate skills requirements, and support quality assurance (QA) in VET, Project No. 527838-LLP-1-2012-1-SK-

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so far, they were familiar with the outcome of the efforts of our colleagues from Croatia and Turkey. Presented were all the documents made within the project and the vision of its future and stability. The site of the project was the next focus of the meeting before completion of the questionnaire developed on indicators. After we had discussion and time for proposals and new ideas



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Section 4: Annexes

Please find attached the following documentation with the Employers Forum Report):

List of participants

Invitation

Photographs

Questioners

Photos



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