

The last six months have been challenging yet productive for the VETFest project! Partners from Portugal, Greece, Italy, Spain, and Turkey have successfully implemented the 12 VETFest Good Practices either online or face-to-face. Read the 4th newsletter and catch up with our latest activities!

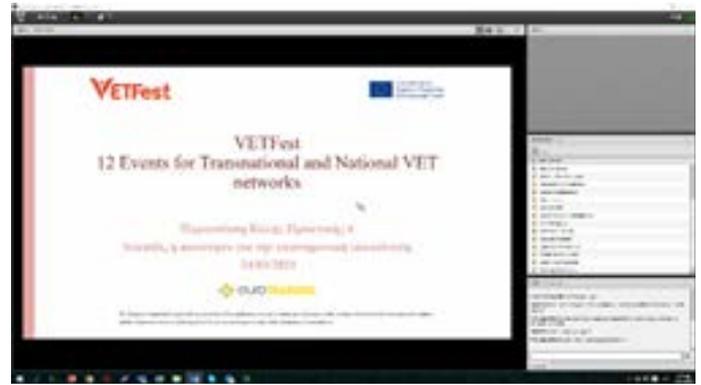
How was the Good Practices' Implementation amidst Covid-19?

Due to the Covid-19 outbreak, partners had to find creative solutions to put digital environments and tools to great use for the implementation stage of the project. According to the different situation in each partner country over the last six months, the partners managed to implement the Good Practices online, face-to-face or through a combination of both on certain occasions. The project implementation has met with great success in all partner countries.

In Greece, EUROTraining managed to implement all 12 Good Practices in all its three branches through online platforms managing this way to reach a big audience of over 350 people. The implementation took place from March to May 2021, offering great networking opportunities during the pandemic and facilitating collaboration of different stakeholders. AKMI in Greece also had the opportunity to pilot the Good Practices in three educational institutes. Representatives of the National Organisation for the Certification of Qualifications & Vocational Guidance (EOPPEP) and the Secretary General of EVBB attended some of the events. Different target groups have been positively affected by the implementation. In Italy, CONFORM involved 3 schools and 325 students in workshops that were held by some of the international Universities that it works with.



Ciuffelli – Einaudi Institute, between the end of May and mid-June, organized mixed or even face-to-face implementation activities, depending on the type of activity planned. Important personalities participated including Vincenzo Amendola, the Minister of European Affairs. Defoin, our partners from Spain, embraced the opportunity to adapt the face-to-face activities to an online environment. All their implementation activities were well-received by the target groups, especially students who were thrilled by the digital tools and their impact on education. In Turkey, the implementation was combined with the opening of the VETFest Good Practices workshops and the celebration of the European Skills Week. Approximately 100 representatives from the District Governorate, Municipality, District Directorate of National Education, Vocational High Schools, Chamber of Craftsmen, companies from different sectors and NGOs participated in the celebrations. The events received great coverage by the national press.



SPEL, CEPROF and APSU, the Portuguese partners of the VETFest consortium, involved 6 schools in the implementation of the 12VETFest Plan! More than 800 participants were directly involved in the activities of the project (students/trainees, teachers, trainers, psychologists, VET providers and representatives of the market), that lasted the entire school year. In spite of the setbacks caused by the pandemic and the "blended pilot testing", with some activities happening online and others face-to-face, the feedback was very positive and motivational.

Now that the implementation activities have been successfully concluded for most partners, the consortium is looking forward to further networking and collaboration opportunities that will further promote the role and quality of VET education!

How did the pandemic affect the 4th Transnational project meeting?

Due to the long-lasting consequences of the Covid-19 outbreak, the consortium had to adjust their scheduled meetings. More specifically, the 4th Transnational Project meeting which was initially expected to be hosted by EUROTraining in Athens, was hosted though Skype. Partners had a productive meeting in a positive atmosphere. The topics discussed were mainly around the progress of implementation in each partner country as well as the next steps of quality assurance and dissemination.



Which are the next steps?

In the upcoming months, the partners will continue being busy with international events and activities. Five final conferences are expected to be organized in Greece, Turkey, Spain, Portugal and Italy. These conferences aim at celebrating the project's results and success and further promote networking opportunities. The 5th Transnational Project Meeting, which will be the final one, will take place in September 2021 and will be hosted online by CEPROF.

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