

#Erasmusplus4WBL



**“Development of competences of Education & Training professionals and youth operators / workers supporting WBL experiences”**

**Transnational Cooperation Activity**

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**Franca Fiacco (ISFOL Erasmus+ National Agency)**



*Ministero dell'Istruzione,  
dell'Università e della Ricerca*



*Ministero del Lavoro  
e delle Politiche Sociali*



*Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri*  
DIPARTIMENTO DELLA GIOVENTÙ E DEL SERVIZIO CIVILE NAZIONALE

# Background

The **contribution of work-based learning** to tackle **youth employment** and to foster economic competitiveness is widely recognised

Countries with **strong and attractive VET systems**, and notably those **with well-established apprenticeship systems**, tend to **perform better in terms of youth employment**

## European Alliance for Apprenticeships

created to support Member States to:

**“... Undertake VET system reforms, in cooperation with social partners and other relevant stakeholders, by introducing an apprenticeship pathway or improving existing schemes,..., in order to increase the number, quality and attractiveness of apprenticeships”**

# NetWBL Thematic Network

The **NetWBL Work-based Learning and Apprenticeships** thematic network of Nas was funded by DG EAC to support the European Alliance for Apprenticeships.

It aims at:

1. making visible the results of Lifelong Learning Programme (LLP) and Erasmus+ projects focused on work-based learning thus supporting VET reforms (toolkit)
2. identifying needs & gaps characterising E&T systems to be filled in by new projects/products to be developed within the Erasmus+ Programme

# Youth unemployment

The youth unemployment situation in Europe is worrying:

- **Youth unemployment rates are generally much higher, even double or more than double, than unemployment rates for all ages**
- **The economic crisis, however, severely hit the young**
- **In 2014 the youth unemployment rate in the EU-28 was more than double the overall unemployment rate**
- **A 23.8 % youth unemployment rate meant that more than one out of every five young persons in the labour force was not employed, but looking and available for a job**

# Youth unemployment rate

In some Member States that rate is particularly high:

- ✓ Spain (53.2 %),
- ✓ Greece (52.4 %),
- ✓ Croatia (45.5 %),
- ✓ Italy (42.7 %),
- ✓ Cyprus (35.9 %)
- ✓ Portugal (34.7 %)

Germany (7.7 %) is the only Member State with a youth unemployment rate below 10 %.

# Mismatch

In Europe more than 5.5 million young people under the age of 25 are out of work

**however**

a considerable number of companies have difficulties to fill jobs.

In the crisis the phenomenon of **qualification mismatch** has increased

## Top priority for EU E&T and Youth actors

EU Institutions, Member States, regional and national authorities, employers, trade unions, Universities, training providers, schools,

youth organizations and National Agencies

must all work together to identify and implement effective measures to overcome the crisis

**This is the current top priority for the EU**

# VET & HE systems

**VET and Higher Education systems may have a strong impact on the labour market:**

reforms are necessary, in particular to increase the attractiveness and relevance of related pathways **and work-based learning experiences may increase the attractiveness of learning pathways**

It is very important to **encourage reforms** in education and training systems so that our **young people develop the skills and knowledge** they need to **increase their job prospects**

# Our aims

There is no doubt that

**high quality work-based learning and apprenticeships greatly increases the chances of finding a job!**

**The new priorities of the Erasmus+ Programme, both horizontal and field-specific, should be effectively explored by new Erasmus+ project proposals to further exploit the benefits of work-based learning in post-secondary VET, in continuous VET, in Higher Education and within youth work**

