KNOWLEDGE FAIR

Integrating New Ways of Inclusive Learning in VET

May 25th-26th, 2018

Tirana International Hotel

'Skills for Jobs' (S4J) strategy to increase quality of formal vocational education, is based on introducing New Ways of Learning through Blended Learning – the combination of various learning modalities one of which is online, allowing individualisation of skills development experiences centred around students' needs. Digitalised information systems are introduced as well for a more efficient school management. This innovation in education in Albania, is engineered by exceptional national and international experts and builds on high performing VET Swiss model.

During the training and mentoring process in January 2017-May 2018, many vocational education teachers have shown to be early adapters of New Ways. In their work, these excellent teachers combine school and company learning places and experience, include critical reasoning, peer assessment, interdisciplinary project-based learning, research projects, games, gradual practical skills development and other student's centred learning activities aiming learning outcomes achievement and increased employability. They make use of the industry standards, open course and Virtual Learning Systems customised for Albanian VET system; social mobile media; access updated digital students centred learning materials and communicate in real time through electronic devices.

In April 2018, 'Skills for Jobs' (S4J) received the special recognition prize at 'Albanian ICT Awards' for the excellent work and the modern vision of conceptualizing vocational schools in Albania. The 'Knowledge Fair' event will showcase this innovation of teaching and learning in Albanian vocational schools, providing opportunities for exchange of best practices and extend blended learning application in partner schools and beyond.

Date: 25 May 2018, 16.00-18.30
       26 May 2018, 09.00-17.00

Venue: Tirana International Hotel

No of participants: around 200

Objectives:
- Showcase best practises of innovative inclusive teaching and learning in school and company;
- Highlight S4J project concept and "Swissness" on new ways of teaching, learning and working;
- Incentivise knowledge management, peer learning and communities of practice in VET;
- Foster mutual development and a unique experience for the audience;
- Contributing to the national dialogue on skills development and employment reform.

Audience:
- Teachers, students and directors in partner VET providers and beyond;
- Government institutes for innovation and VET;
- Selected employers & business associations;
- Strategic partners supporting the integration of industry standards in VET;
- International community in skills development.

Event features:
- Welcoming speeches from SDC and MoFE;
- Teachers certification in basics of didactics from National VET and Qualifications Agency;
- Key note speaker from a high-level professional;
- Showcases of best practises: Demonstrations, animation, simulation, flashlights;
- Testimonial from students;
- Debate with the audience on need for new ways of learning and how to increase students' motivation and employability;
- Interactive workshops & presentations to engage the audience during the event;
- A high tech, musical, innovative and creativity inducing environment.

AGENDA

Day 1, May 25th, 2018

15:30 – 16:00	*Registration*	**Registration desk** **1st Floor**
16:00 – 16.40	***Opening Ceremony*** *Short video on **'New Ways of Learning'*** ***Welcome Remarks*** *Fation Dragoshi, Project Manager, 'Skills for Jobs' S4J* *Dajna Sorensen, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Finance and Economy* *Teuta Dobi, Trans- Adriatic Pipeline* *Phillipp Keller, Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of Switzerland in Albania*	**'Akernia' room** **1st Floor**
16:40 – 17.00	***Ceremony of Certification for Didactic Training*** *Short video on Didactic Training* *Ejvis Gishti, National Agency for Vocational Education and Training* *Florida Toto, teacher, "Kristo Isak" vocational school in Berat*	**'Akernia' room** **1st Floor**
17:00– 17.15	*Presentation* ***Impact of New Ways of Teaching and Learning applied in VET*** *Skerdi Zahaj, University of Tirana*	**'Akernia' room** **1st Floor**
17.15 – 17.35	*Presentation* ***Learning and working in a digital era: exploring new ways of using technology*** *Urs Gröhbiel, Swiss Network of Innovation in Education (SNBI)*	**'Akernia' room** **1st Floor**
17.35 – 18:30	***Networking and Coffee*** *Showcase of didactic portfolio from certified teachers*	**'Akernia' room** **1st Floor**

AGENDA

Day 2, May 26th, 2018

Parallel activities – Presentations and Panel Discussions

09.00 – 11.00   **Remote Apprenticeships in ICT – experience and results**   **'Teuta' room**
2nd Floor

98 students in 10th studying Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in 'Kolin Gjoka' and 'Pavarësia' school are apprentices of 11 ICT industry leading companies in Albania, operating in programming and digital marketing. Although in different locations, groups of students, guided by company mentors and coordinated by teachers, benefit from practical training in projects and tasks. The network is virtually managed by SSN and task management tool 'Papion'. Students and companies meet virtually through the weekly conference calls.

Contributors
Dorian Kamberi & Ines Troqe, 'Skills for Jobs' S4J
Jetmir Shtjefni, teacher, 'Kolin Gjoka' school
Fjora Hodo, Albanian Business Partner
Jurgen Vuka, apprentice at ABP and ICT student, 'Kolin Gjoka' school

09.00 – 11.00   **Interdisciplinary project-based learning**   **'Metropol' room**
2nd Floor

Project based learning is widely applied in partner VET schools. Students are quite often proactive in proposing and designing projects. Teachers have an important role in proper planning, following and assessing the project work. Exemplary cases of interdisciplinary projects will be presented and main issues into proper planning and integrating this method into the school curricula will arise.

Contributors
Shqipe Shyti, Teaching Methodologies expert
Alba Qirjako, teacher, industrial 'Pavarësia' school
Anisa Melishte, teacher, 'Gjergj Canco' school
Ledi Lacej, teacher, 'Hamdi Bushati' school
Ermira Mani, teacher, 'Hamdi Bushati' school
Alketa Ismailaj, teacher, Tregtare school

09.00 – 11.00   **Interactive student-centred teaching and learning**   **'Onufri' room**
2nd Floor

Aiming to engage students and make teaching and learning more interactive and thus effective, teachers design their learning plans. This session will be dedicated

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC

REPUBLIKA E SHQIPËRISË
MINISTRIA E FINANCAVE
DHE EKONOMISË

swisscontact

Swisscontact • Esatern Europe Regional Office • Skenderbej street • Villa no. 49 • Tirana, Albania • Tel: +355 (0)42 232 778 •
www.swisscontact.org/albania

to show cases of teachers who combine a variety of methods and will explain the logic after the mix and the challenges and effectivity observed.

Contributors
Gerda Sula, Pedagogy and Teacher Training expert
Selman Feraj, teacher, industrial 'Pavarësia' school
Elda Polovina, teacher, 'Kristo Isak' school
Joana Halili, teacher, industrial 'Pavarësia' school

09.00 – 11.00	***Digital learning materials development process***	**'Blue' room** **2nd Floor**

'Skills for Jobs' S4J is supporting partner VET school teachers in developing digital learning materials to support teaching and learning and uploading them online. Almost 75% of topics in theoretical subjects in Tourism & Hospitality, Information and Communication Technology and Economy are being tested. General education subjects such as math are reconceptualized integrating interactive and engaging content. The process is supported by accredited teacher training and cooperation with pedagogical, subject and virtual learning experts and is based on a quality assurance model.

Contributors
Mirela Andoni, VET expert
Teuta Çobaj, Education Quality Assurance expert
Rezart Prifti, Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation (CEI)

11:00 – 11.30	***Coffee break***	**2nd Floor Hall**
11:00 – 11.30	<u>*Showcase and guided tours*</u> ***CISCO technology, NetAcad and students' projects*** ***Innovative projects developed by students***	**2nd Floor Hall**

<u>*Parallel activities*</u> *– Presentations and Panel Discussions*

11.30 – 13.00	***CISCO – integrating industry standards in ICT***	**'Teuta' room** **2nd Floor**

Aiming a high exposure to Industry Standards technology and virtual learning Platforms, 'Skills for Jobs' S4J, established a strategic partnership with CISCO by becoming a CISCO Network Academy.

15 teachers are now certified as CISCO instructors and NetAcad is used by teachers and students, integrated in the school curricula and as extracurricular activity. The partnership is coordinated through American University of Kosovo, supporting the schools and 'Skills for Jobs' S4J in teacher training and making the

best use of the academy. The CISCO lab in school has become the centre of many innovative projects.

Contributors
Henry Leerentveld, Director Eastern Europe, Swisscontact
National VET and Qualifications Agency
Enis Vehapi, American University of Kosovo
Lorena File, teacher, industrial 'Pavarësia' school
Ronaldo Feka, student, industrial 'Pavarësia' school
Kamza Multifunctional Center

11.30 – 13.00	**Metronom supporting teaching & learning**	**'Metropol' room** **2nd Floor**

'Skills for Jobs' S4J in cooperation with CEI (Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation) has enabled access to a Moodle based learning platform. Teachers of 'Skills for Jobs' S4J partner schools are trained and coached on how to use the functionalities of this platform and support their teaching and students learning. Using wikies, real time test, access to interactive digital content, student's portfolio, individual reading, students' metrics etc., are only some of the advantages. Teachers and experts will show the use of this platform and results so far.

Contributors
Ana Shkreta, Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation
Gerda Sula, Pedagogy and Teacher Training expert
Valbona Çokaj, teacher, 'Kolin Gjoka' school
Griselda Llanaj, student, 'Tregtare' School

11.30 – 13.00	**Contextualization of general theory subjects with profession**	**'Onufri' room** **2nd Floor**

General education subjects represent at least 30% of the teaching load in formal VET. Although a general program applies to all vocational directions, teachers find it useful to integrate elements from the vocation and make it more contextual and achieve this way the learning objectives.

Contributors
Shqipe Shyti, Teaching Methodologies expert
Erjona Jaupaj, teacher, Tregtare school
Shpresa Gjergji, teacher, Tregtare school
Zamira Shehaj, teacher, Tregtare school

11.30 – 13.00	**Systems and technology supporting institutional management**	**'Blue' room** **2nd Floor**

For 4 vocational schools is available an e-management information system supported by 'Skills for Jobs' S4J. Informatisation of all school data such as teaching activity, resources and administration, will enable a faster and more efficient reporting but also performance check from all actors in the school.

Contributors
Orland Qesteri, 'Skills for Jobs' S4J
Alba Halilaj, Communication Progress
Gjenovefa Xhakaj, teacher, Tregtare school

13.00 – 13.45	*Showcase and guided tours* **Technology supporting New Ways** **Innovative projects developed by students**	**2nd Floor Hall**

13.00 – 14.00	**Lunch buffet**	**2nd Floor Hall**

Parallel activities – Presentations and Panel Discussions

14.00 – 15.30	**Gamification in VET – how to make learning more effective and enjoyable**	**'Teuta' room** **2nd Floor**

The gamification of learning is an educational approach to motivate students to learn by using game elements in learning environments, some of them supported by IT. The goal is to maximize enjoyment and engagement through capturing the interest of learners and inspiring them to continue learning.
In 'Skills for Jobs' S4J partner schools, gamification is becoming more common. Teachers align this activity with the learning objective and create a good atmosphere supporting learning.

Contributors
Gerda Sula, Pedagogy and Teacher Training expert
Jonida Haxhi, teacher, 'Gjergj Canco' school
Nertila Dundo, teacher, 'Kristo Isak' school

14.00 – 15.30	**Planning, assessment and documentation of Work Based Learning (WBL), making use of digital media**	**'Metropol' room** **2nd Floor**

Quality Assurance of work-based learning is crucial, especially when most of this activity is delivered in companies. Different vocational directions have different practices, as the different providers based on relations with private sector, school infrastructure and other contextual factors.

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC

REPUBLIKA E SHQIPËRISË
MINISTRIA E FINANCAVE DHE EKONOMISË

swisscontact

Swisscontact • Esatern Europe Regional Office • Skenderbej street • Villa no. 49 • Tirana, Albania • Tel: +355 (0)42 232 778 • www.swisscontact.org/albania

Contributors
Elsa Denaj, 'Skills for Jobs' S4J
Meri Simoni, teacher, 'Kolin Gjoka' school
Majlinda Haxhi, teacher, 'Gjergj Canco' school
Merita Koço, teacher, Tregtare school
Contribution from other providers

14.00 – 15.30	***Inclusive teaching and learning – formative assessment and gender-sensitive cases***	**'Onufri' room** **2nd Floor**

Students portfolio is considered as an important instrument for formative and summative assessment, especially in VET where students participate in many different activities and gain extra skills. Another important issue in inclusiveness of VET relates to gender. Girls have a low representation in VET and quite often are observed gender biased practices in teaching activities, including assessment. S4J aims to tackle this issue through integrated approach facilitated by gender contact point in each institution.

Contributors
Eriola Shingjergji, 'Skills for Jobs' S4J
Teuta Çobaj, Education Quality Assurance expert
Lorena Gjonçe, teacher, Tregtare school
Ina Hoxha, teacher, 'Gjergj Canco' school

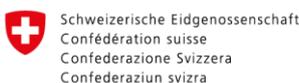|		
14.00 – 15.30	***Blended Learning models applied in formal and nonformal - adopting to the objective and conditions***	**'Blue' room** **2nd Floor**

In the core of blended learning is the adjustment of teacher and learning modality with conditions and objectives. Adult learning and short-term courses are an important contributor to the VET offer, especially in these challenging times of the world of work in rapid change. E-learning platforms and private companies participating in designing the modules/courses, are only some of the novelties in this that could be applied to both formal and nonformal.

Contributors
Borana Barjami, 'Skills for Jobs' S4J
Klajdi Myzaferaj, Vocational Training Centre, Vlora
Erjon Curraj, Tech 360
Irma Allceniku, 'Hamdi Bushati' school

15.30 – 15.45	***Coffee Break***	**2nd Floor Hall**

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC

REPUBLIKA E SHQIPËRISË
MINISTRIA E FINANCAVE DHE EKONOMISË

swisscontact

Swisscontact • Esaetern Europe Regional Office • Skenderbej street • Villa no. 49 • Tirana, Albania • Tel: +355 (0)42 232 778 •
www.swisscontact.org/albania

15.45 – 16.30	*Panel Discussion*	**'Balsha' room**
	Developing curricula and teacher training – the role of Development Unit and other actors	**2ⁿᵈ Floor**
	Contributors	
	Gerda Sula, Pedagogy and Teacher Training expert	
	Rezart Prifti, Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation (CEI)	
	Mirela Andoni, VET expert	
	Gentian Boçi, drejtor, industrial 'Pavarësia' school	
	Enis Vehapi, American University of Kosovo	

16.30 – 16.45	***Conference results***	**'Balsha' room**
	Sidita Dibra, Deputy Project Manager, 'Skills for Jobs' S4J	**2ⁿᵈ Floor**

16.45 – 17.00	***Closing Remarks***	**'Balsha' room**
	Henry Leerentveld, Director Eastern Europe, Swisscontact	**2ⁿᵈ Floor**