EfVET WBL Guideline: the first guideline of EfVET totally dedicated to Work-Based Learning

Work-Based Learning (WBL) is an instructional model with well-defined learning objectives. It allows learners to acquire knowledge, competences and skills by carrying out work activities at the workplace and/or in a simulated work environment in vocational education and training (VET) institutions and other training centres, under the guidance of experienced workers or trainers (Cedefop, 2023).

Aware of the importance of WBL for its Members, and for their students’ successful professional careers and employability opportunities, EfVET included on its Strategic Plan 2022-2026 the Strategic Direction 5 “Promoters of work-based learning”. This Strategic Direction (SD) plans to implement a wide range of measures and initiatives during the mentioned period, aimed to contribute to and actively support the developments in work-based learning in the context of a labour market which skills needs are continuously changing and must be catered by VET schools when preparing their students to be successful professionals.

The EfVET WBL Guideline is a platform that showcases EfVET Members’ practices and their work to duly prepare a successful future workforce. It provides a new perspective about different approaches to WBL, and to get to know other WBL practices that eventually they can also implement on their own organisations/institutions. Moreover, it promotes a positive impact on EfVET Members’ students’ WBL experiences and, ultimately, contribute for increasing VET attractiveness and for the quality of its provision.

Its purpose is to be a toolkit available to all EfVET Members and other readers interested in exploring the resources it provides (e.g., studies, reports and existing online platforms developed by relevant organisations such as Cedefop, ETF - European Training Foundation or OECD - Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) and
in replicating the 15 WBL inspirational practices described by the Members that participated in the Guideline’s development process.

The Good Practice session titled *EfVET WBL Guideline: Promoting work-based learning in VET*, carried out during EfVET Annual Conference in Rhodes (GR) was the set for the official launch of *EfVET WBL Guideline*. In this session, attended by 60 participants, an overview of the Guideline’s structure and its added value to EfVET Members and other readers was made.

In addition, the session also showcased 3 of the 15 emerging and inspiring work-based learning practices implemented by EfVET Member organisations. These practices, implemented by Cometa (IT), Helsinki Vocational College and Adult Institute (FI) and INSIGNARE (PT), were presented by Alessandro Mele, Ami Toikka and Carina Oliveira, representatives of the three Member organisations.

Moderated by Susana Nogueira (EfVET Policy/Project Officer) and Wolfgang Stutzmann (Berufsbildende Schule Wirtschaft I - DE), both part of SD5 Working Group, together with Jussi Kajander (Luovi Vocational College – FI), Luís Costa (ANESPO – PT) and Valentina Chanina (EfVET Secretary General), this session also allowed EfVET to understand participants’ perspectives on the most relevant WBL-related issues to be addressed by SD5 in the following years:

**Table 1 List of suggested WBL-related topics to be addressed by EfVET SD5**

| ✓ Evaluation in the scope of WBL;  
| ✓ Funding/Insurance;  
| ✓ Cooperation with companies;  
| ✓ WBL legal framework. |

Furthermore, discussions were held on how can EfVET WBL Guideline be the basis for other SD5 initiatives, including the potential creation of EfVET WBL Observatory.