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Local Capacity Building Workshop: Launch of the 2018th edition: "Title of Excellence" Award

The National Centre for TVET Development and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry Hunedoara organised the launch of the Title of Excellence Award at the County School Inspectorate Hunedoara, on March 22nd, 2018.

The workshop organised as part of the transnational project "Learning by Doing" brought together local schools to participate in the 2018 Scheme for the **"Title of Excellence Award"** for the recognition of their contribution to the correlation of initial VET and labour market demand.

Successful VET schools in Hunedoara county which want to be validated by the economic environment and recognized by the community as providers offering attractive initial training for pupils and, indirectly for parents, can register to participate in a monitoring - validation process for all excellence areas or just for the one(s) they consider representative.

VET School were informed about all the necessary steps for the registration in the competition above. This year all schools will register online until March 30th, 2018. The school teams collect data according to the areas of excellence considered relevant to the specifics of the school and the current practices: the **attractiveness** of the training offer, the **flexibility** offered by schools by adapting the training offer to the labour market demand, the **relevance** of the training offer, the learning process **innovation**, the training for the acquisition of the **"business"-like attitudes** that employers expect from initial VET graduates as potential employees.

These records are centralized in the School Self-Assessment Sheet, which has a similar structure to the Monitoring Report, which will be developed by the monitoring and validation teams until May 20th, 2018. The results and the recommendations will be included and published in the Synthetic Report, within the 2018 edition and will be validated by May 30th, 2018.

These activities bring together schools, employers, representatives of local authorities, LCDSP members and Regional Consortia and come to strengthen their partnership and social dialogue. They increase the confidence of all participants in initial education and training by creating a strong and mutual, "win-win" relationship.

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Moreover, the employers and representatives of VET schools opened a constructive dialogue on a sensitive and present issue: **teacher training through practical internships within companies**. The purpose of these actions is to allow access to modern technologies used daily, to familiarize teachers with new technical equipments to make sure that the theoretical training they will provide to students in the classroom is correlated with the reality of the new technical equipment which will be used by students during their practical training within the companies.

This dialogue has been a successful one so far: 26 teachers already have manifested their interest to participate in such practical traineeships and most likely others will contact employers to agree on a common timetable.

The workshop will contribute to the improvement of all relevant VET actors' capacities through reinforcing national, regional and transnational partnerships in order to facilitate the development and strengthen existing VET systems in the Danube region countries.

The project "Learning by Doing" is financed by the European Union through the Transnational Cooperation Programme for the Danube Region and addresses the fourth thematic priority of the Transnational Cooperation Programme for the Danube Region: a well-governed Danube region: providing support for the implementation of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region and improve the legal frameworks and policies to address major societal challenges, such as measures on the labour market, education systems, demographic changes, etc. It is coordinated by the Hungarian Chamber of Commerce and brings together 24 partners among which the National Centre for TVET Development and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry Hunedoara.

For further details please visit:

<http://www.interreg-danube.eu/learning-by-doing/>,

<http://www.tvet.ro/index.php/ro/proiecte-de-dezvoltare-a-invamantului-profesional-si-tehnic/378.html>

<http://www.refernet.ro/>

Facebook: Cndipt, Cndipt ReferNet Romania

<https://www.facebook.com/crinela/videos/1863679736999184/?t=132>