



## NEW VET Project

The project "Network fostering the European Work-based learning system for VET providers" (NEW VET), co-funded by the EU Erasmus+ (KA3) programme, aims to foster partnership and cooperation among VET providers to become effective actors in supporting VET reforms at national and European levels.

NEW VET enhances the quality of national VET systems by promoting the effective implementation of EU recommendations and tools. The project also raises awareness on the Work- Based Learning system aspiring to make VET a more popular and attractive choice.

## NEW VET Share Your Story 2020 Edition

The **The NEW VET Share Your Story Contest 2020** has aimed to raise awareness of the opportunities available through Vocational Education and Training. VET learners, teachers/ tutors and in-company mentors from the NEW VET partner countries, ie. France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Slovenia were encouraged to share their VET experience to win an electronic device (tablet or laptop). 98 stories have been submitted and the best ones have been selected based on previously set criteria focusing on the story relevance, quality of content and impact.

The Share Your Story Contest 2020 is a great demonstration that talent truly abounds in VET. It is a delight to be celebrating the people behind this talent and their considerable achievements in the field of VET. Congratulations to all the winners. A new deadline for the 2021 edition will be announced next year and you are cordially invited to participate to the 2021 edition.



**EUROPEAN VOCATIONAL SKILLS WEEK 2020**

**OFFICIAL PARTNER**  
EUROPEAN VOCATIONAL SKILLS WEEK 2020

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NETWORK FOSTERING THE EUROPEAN WORK-BASED LEARNING SYSTEM FOR VET PROVIDERS

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## NEW VET Winning Stories 2020

# France

## Share Your Story Contest 2020

VET Learner

### Nariné Chahbazyan

Since I arrived in France, I wanted to work in pastry cooking. I already made cakes for friends at birthday or wedding parties. But to be able to work in France in this field you need to have a diploma. After 6 months of training to improve my level in French I started to prepare a vocational training qualification, the CAP pâtisserie, at the apprentice training center. I follow courses at the training center and I also work with a pastry chef to learn the job in practice. There, I am gaining experience and practicing the techniques learned in the training center. My tutor likes to show me his job, I master more and more professional gestures. I feel like I'm learning twice as much. The pastry chef has a real know-how that he is happy to share with me. Moreover, he even talked to me about the possibility of working for him when I get my diploma. It would allow me to have even more experience before I become self-employed. Because it's my dream!



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# Germany

## Share Your Story Contest 2020

VET Learner

### Richard Tischer

See the world and discover new things. These needs aroused in me the desire to move into the world after my carpentry apprenticeship. On the top of the wish list was Ireland. The green island, with warm-hearted people and a rough climate. Rugby, traditional music, enchanting landscape. Life in Ireland is a bit different than at home. The supermarkets open every day. Houses in the country have no house numbers, the streets sometimes have no names. I worked with the traditional carpenter James Grace at Grace Design (gracedesign.ie). His name is program. Traditional wooden constructions and sculptures, partly carved with a hatchet, enchant the senses. We built a huge shelf, drawer fronts with handles made of one piece, and a classic roof truss construction. I learned an incredible amount about wood, working with classical tools and life. I am very grateful for this time and I encourage everyone to pursue their dreams.



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# Germany

## Share Your Story Contest 2020

VET Learner  
**Julia Seeger**

In my school days I often asked myself: What is the benefit of what I learn here for my life?

Soon it was clear: I'm going into crafts, despite my A-levels. With my hands and their work I conjure a smile on people's faces. I'm a pastry chef, and I make delicacies for every palate from various raw materials and ingredients. No matter whether it's chocolates, caramel, simple cakes or elaborate tarts, decorations or showpieces, we learn how varied our food can be and what can be done with it.

Behind every recipe there are physical principles and chemical reactions, the confectionery combines creativity and science. During the training we also learn how to handle raw materials and ingredients responsibly. As in every craft, in the training as a confectioner you develop skills that you can use not only at work but also in everyday life. Passion became a profession!



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# Germany

## Share Your Story Contest 2020

VET in-company trainer/mentor  
**Thomas Franke**

Since we started to offer apprenticeships, it has been possible for every trainee to go on an internship abroad.

For two years now we have been organizing projects for the whole class.

These projects involve the renovation of a historical rail vehicle of the respective country. The trainees have to make the plans for the work and then work together as a team. Sometimes it is also difficult to get parts and material. This was often a problem in Eritrea. Then it is interesting to observe the trainees. Some of them grow beyond themselves, from whom you might never expect it. This year we were in Greece and everyone can be proud of what we achieved.

We as trainers also learn and recognize how much more potential there is in our young colleagues. Perhaps we would never have been able to recognize it without this internship.



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Greece

## Share Your Story Contest 2020

VET Learner

### Vassiliki Grammenou

I have finished my studies in linguistics, and I have pursued a MA in Philosophy. I have worked for almost 15 years as a teacher, but my love and passion for clothes and fashion has always been there. I became active in the field of clothing six years ago. I started by learning and practicing pattern cutting in a three-year workshop, and after that, I enrolled in a VET course for two years. In 2016, I moved to Rome to pursue a master's degree in fashion design. I stayed in Rome for a year and a half, and then I came back to Greece where I entered a competition. A few months ago, while I was sitting in a coffee shop, and I was sending out my CV, I had in my mind the 'Hautes Grecians' fashion competition and if it was taking place this summer. After a quick research, I decided to apply at the very last moment. Finally, I won the competition, and this is how I started my cooperation with Toi&Moi.



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Greece

## Share Your Story Contest 2020

VET in-company trainer/mentor

### Efthimia Kotoula

My professional experience as a tutor for adults in public vocational education and training started in 2016. In 2017, I started my professional experience in career counselling offering career guidance and counselling for vulnerable groups. Since then, I have met many young migrants, refugees and asylum seekers who had abruptly abandoned their education and were looking for new horizons and opportunities. During the career guidance seminars, individuals from vulnerable communities had the opportunity to be informed on how to get accepted in VET schools. They were informed that by enrolling in a VET school they would be able to earn a diploma which would facilitate job search and career development in their field of study. Fajz from Pakistan and Sadak from Afghanistan as well as many others who attend VET and vocational schools offered by the Greek Manpower Employment Organization aim to become chefs, car technicians and mechanics and other professions too.



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Greek Facebook Live Event

# Italy

## Share Your Story Contest 2020

VET learner

### Renzo Spitoni

Stories that meet and cross for a short and definite time; different experiences that overlap and show themselves with different desires and expectations of a shared path aimed at reaching a level of awareness and knowledge in a fascinating sector. Our lands, where we were born and raised, where we have been trained and forged. With our characters, with the unforgettable flavours of food that nourished every cell of us. Here then is the training path that opens up new doors of knowledge, which introduces us to new paths conceived of describing wonderful stories that happen around us. This is a premise to give us new tools to tell about the ancient story of our region. With its differences and changes, our region made this territory a resource and a basket. Now it is our time to excite you :-)



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# Italy

## Share Your Story Contest 2020

VET Teacher

### Nicola Angelozzi

I'm Nicola, a science, chemistry and anatomy teacher at Ial Marche. I was lucky enough to teach in the "Wellness Operators" course. Of course, the beginning was not the best: the girls were very refractory to rules and learning and, using traditional methods, the results were not the best. Over time, however, the more I have to know my students, the more I became aware of their insecurities and their potential. At this point, the spring that made this course the most satisfying of my life was released. My job has become not only that of a teacher who, as such, enunciates concepts and demands that they be learned but, instead, also of a motivator who, for the remaining two years of the course, tried to bring out the skills of all the girls. The result went beyond all expectations and, at the end of the journey; those who were slightly capricious little girls have become young women aware of themselves and their value.



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# Italy

## Share Your Story Contest 2020

VET in-company trainer/mentor

**Giada Baldoni**

Hold firmly a flap of wings and give yourself a firm push that takes you far. These words very well represent my experience and, to me, they represent the profound meaning of vocational training. I have been working in this field for many years and have covered various positions: teacher, project designer, trainer, assistant management consultant. The training opportunities aiming at employment, inclusion, integration, professional qualification or entrepreneurship represent large windows open to the world. They are fundamental tools, through which people get in touch with their potential, developing their talent and stimulating empathy. Training paths light the mind and allows you to renew and experiment yourself, seize new opportunities and open yourself to new experiences. It represents a unique and special recipe that can transform reality, creating something always new. Different. Best.



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Italian Facebook Live Event

# Slovenia

## Share Your Story Contest 2020

VET learner

**Patricija Fučko**

My name is Patricija Fučko, a student of the secondary school for health care in Nova Gorica, and I would like to present my experience with the practical training that I went for at QRIUS in Vipava. In Slovenian, QRIUS stands for the centre for education, rehabilitation and training, where children and youth with special needs receive education and training. I chose this institution, as I really enjoy working with children. The work I performed there was as a nurse. As soon as I arrived, I felt the warmth and friendliness of both the children and the staff. And when I actually started working, I immediately knew I was doing the right thing. It is such a wonderful feeling, when the children and youth welcome you with a smile, a kind work and a positive energy that radiates from them. I gained a lot of experience that will serve me in my life. During my time there, I got to see life a little differently, see a part of the lives of happy and lively children who are happy, regardless of their medical state.



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# Slovenia

## Share Your Story Contest 2020

VET Teacher  
**Matjaž Marušič**

My name is Matjaž Marušič. I work at the centre as a teacher of practical electrotechnology classes. Since I was little, I always watching my father work in his workshop, fixing electrical devices. I imagined how I would, one day, be an expert like my father. That wish has slowly begun to come true. I enrolled in a technical vocational school, where I took part in various projects. I gained many skills that I still use in my work. Then I continued my studies at university, which I successfully completed. After that, I began working at the hydro-power plant company Soške elektrarne, and after three years ended up at the School Centre. Here I have been carrying out a great number of projects with the students. Together, we try to gain new skills through each project. I continue to learn new things and pass them on to my successors. I hope I will remain a popular professor, who is a role model to the students, just as my father was to me.



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# Slovenia

## Share Your Story Contest 2020

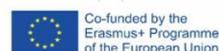
VET in-company trainer/mentor  
**Tina Zgaga**

In 2019, at Business Solutions d.o.o. we held an advanced two-week summer IT workshop. Participants got the opportunity to see how work on a real project looks like and how they can apply their theoretical knowledge in practice. At the heart of our efforts is promoting the creation of an environment that is welcoming to young people, that encourages and empowers them to achieve their own independence, and provides them with a space, an opportunity and the support needed to actively integrate into society and the labour market, which is why I also participated as a mentor in the Next Talent Hub project. We received 40 applications, which was great, and from which we selected 8 most suitable candidates. Then we divided these talents into two groups that operated as one company. They learnt about the entire process from customer requirements and preparing a quote to the production and creation of two products. Next Talent Hub is not just a workshop, but also a hub of creativity, learning and a new way of recruiting, as we employed some of the participants after the project was concluded.



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Slovenian Facebook Live Event

## Hackathon of Green Technologies and the Internet of Things

During the **VET Skills Week 2020** project partners organised national collateral events in order to raise the attractiveness of VET system to learners and their parents, teachers and companies. All the collateral events were registered on the official EU platform to further increase visibility of national initiatives.

NEW VET project partner, **Šolski center Nova Gorica**, from Slovenia organised a 5-day **Hackathon of Green Technologies and the Internet of Things** event that took place at the Nova Gorica School Centre, where 4 teams of students and their mentors were looking for solutions to the challenges posed by local companies.

The best-rated team was **Green me**, which solved the challenge presented by a company Business Solutions, regarding the garbage generated by tourists when visiting our country. The problems that arise in this area are numerous: from the increase in illegal dumps, littering of roadside space, pollution of the rural environment to overload of the municipal waste system in seasonal periods, especially in summer, and a lack of understanding of waste separation among tourists. The **Green me** team under the mentorship of computer science professor **Edi Medvešček** consists of students of the Secondary School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Nova Gorica: **Aljaž Starc**, **Miha Mirt** and **Matej Bunc** and a student of the Secondary Technical School Nova Gorica: **Tjaž Valentincič**, successfully presented their solution.

We can say without hesitation that all the ideas were great and that we are very proud of the participants and their mentors, as the journey and the experience they gained during this event are their biggest victory.

On 11 November 2020 there was an online national awards ceremony where all participating teams from the Hackathon of Green Technologies and the Internet of Things as well as the participants of the Share Your Story contest 2020 attended it and the winners were awarded.



## HACKATHON 2020 Green me team



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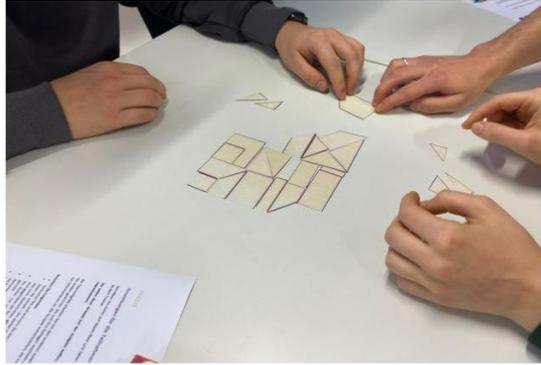
## How vocational training gives your soft skills a new boost

NEW VET project partner, **IHK-Projektgesellschaft mbH**, from Germany arranged a workshop on **"How vocational training gives your soft skills a new boost"** with 17 students of the **VET school Lise-Meitner-OSZ** in Berlin. The aim was to make them and also future interested people aware of the numerous benefits of a VET pathway in terms of strengthening soft skills. Due to practical working phases in a company, learners acquire or improve their soft skills, for example, communication and collaboration inside and outside the team or with customers. Above all, soft skills make working life easier and trust and contacts can be built up more effectively.

After a short introduction to the NEW VET project and the high relevance of soft skills for the labour market nowadays, the VET students could test their soft skills. Afterwards they evaluated the results with two trainers. Some found out their strengths in finding solutions, other in cooperation, again others in leading and motivating others. A second part of the workshop included an energizing training on the skill "cooperation": By combining movement, colours and competition, the students learned a lot about themselves whilst also enjoying the training.

Originally, it was planned to also include the winners of the Share your Story Contest 2020 to the workshop but due to the distance requirements at school, they could not take part. However, on the 20 November 2020 we celebrated the awards online. On this occasion we learned from two VET learners the reasons for choosing a dual training paths, highlights of their 3 years training and what advice would they give to other trainees who are also aiming for a dual training program? Watch their statements [here](#).





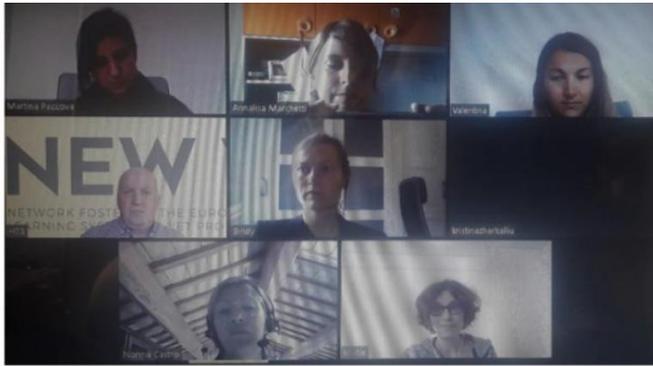
## German Youtube Live Event

### 2<sup>nd</sup> NEW VET meeting Le Puy-en-Velay, FRANCE

The 2nd Steering Committee meeting, initially planned to be held in April 2020 in Le Puy en Velay, France, was postponed and transferred online due to the COVID-19 lock-down restrictions across Europe. The online meeting took place on 13 May 2020.

During the meeting the project partners:

- Monitored the project activities especially as regards *WP2 Quality Monitoring* and *WP6 Project Communication and Dissemination*.
- Launched new project activities especially as regards *WP4 Empowering the Multilevel Cooperation* and *WP5 Spreading the Attractiveness of the VET System*.
- Discussed the effects of the COVID19 emergency on project activities, especially as regards delays of project activities and outcomes caused by lockdowns and travel restrictions.



## 3<sup>rd</sup> NEW VET meeting Berlin, GERMANY

The 3rd Steering Committee meeting, initially planned to be held in September 2020 in Berlin, was organized online on 21st September 2020 due to the travel restrictions imposed by the COVID19 pandemic.

In the third project meeting, NEW VET partners gathered and discussed online important issues regarding the severe ramifications caused by the pandemic in the second project semester (May – Oct 2020). The Project Coordinator highlighted the financial impact of the pandemic emergency and suggested possible solutions (budget for travels, awards for share your story contests etc.).

Another urgent matter was the awards for the winners of the “Share your story contest” that have to be changed with the support and advice of EACEA. The trip to Berlin for attending the European Vocational Skills Week has been replaced by an electronic device (laptop or tablet) for attending the activities online.



## VET News from EU



### European Vocational Skills Week 2020 - Session Reports

European Vocational Skills Week provided a showcase of the benefits of vocational education and training (VET). Over five days, we heard from learners, teachers, high-level politicians, training providers and many other VET stakeholders from around Europe and beyond, they launched the Pact for Skills and presented the Awards for Excellence in VET.

Click on view to find summary reports of each of the sessions.

[View](#)

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