

## FOSTERING ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND EMPLOYABILITY

# A comprehensive regional approach to entrepreneurship education in Asturias

Group No: 159

Round 2

Type of visit:  
Mixed5/3/2012-9/3/2012  
Langreo, SpainWorking language:  
EnglishNumber of places: 15  
Minimum required: 6

Keywords:

- curriculum
- innovative approaches
- key competences

**CATEGORY OF THEMES:**

Encourage cooperation between the worlds of education, training and work

This visit is organised by the host institution in cooperation with the European Commission addressing specifically policy-and decision-makers in education and training to transfer and share experience.

**WHY?**

Entrepreneurship is high on the educational agenda of Asturias and is part of a comprehensive regional strategy (2005-12) developed by the Department of Education and the Department of Industry. Since 2003, entrepreneurship as a separate subject has been included in the secondary education curriculum allowing students (for example, more than 18 000 in 2010) to acquire this important key competence.

Langreo is located in the centre of the region and its primary, secondary and VET schools are active in developing entrepreneurship.

The Valnalón is a regional agency commissioned by the regional government to design and implement strategy in cooperation with educational authorities, schools, parents and employers. It has extensive experience in programmes identified as European good practice that have also been successfully transferred to different regions and countries in Europe and America.

**WHAT?**

Participants will learn about:

- integrated regional strategy for entrepreneurship education;
- programmes and methodologies to develop entrepreneurial skills and attitudes: a mini-company project for primary school pupils; a subject on international entrepreneurship, projects on social and cultural entrepreneurship for secondary schools and a business start-up subject for VET students;
- teacher training programmes;
- impact assessment of entrepreneurship education programmes conducted by the University of Oviedo.

**HOW?**

Participants will:

- visit primary, secondary and VET schools implementing entrepreneurship education;
- meet and observe teachers' and students' work in the classroom;
- discuss the effects of the strategy with researchers.

**WHOM?**

- Directors of education and vocational training institutions, centres or providers,
- representatives of employers' organisations,
- representatives of local, regional and national authorities,
- representatives of trade unions.

**SHORT DESCRIPTION IN THE HOST COUNTRY'S LANGUAGE:**

Esta visita permitirá a los participantes conocer en profundidad el Plan de Fomento de Cultura Emprendedora del Principado de Asturias, con especial énfasis en las acciones realizadas en el sistema educativo desde Primaria a FP. Valnalón es la agencia regional encargada de desarrollar esta estrategia y proporcionará a los participantes la posibilidad de analizar los programas educativos y observar su puesta en práctica en los centros educativos teniendo contacto directo con los principales protagonistas: estudiantes, profesorado y equipos directivos. A su vez, analizaremos las medidas de apoyo puestas al servicio de la comunidad educativa por el gobierno regional y los resultados de una de las primeras evaluaciones de impacto de un programa de educación emprendedora.

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## FOSTERING ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND EMPLOYABILITY

# Developing entrepreneurial culture: university-enterprise partnerships for innovation

Group No: **162****Round 2**Type of visit:  
**Mixed****11/6/2012-14/6/2012**  
**Palermo, Italy**Working language:  
**English**Number of places: **15**  
Minimum required: **8**

Keywords:

- **entrepreneurship**
- **lifelong guidance**
- **work placement**

**CATEGORY OF THEMES:**

Encourage cooperation between the worlds of education, training and work

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**WHY?**

The higher education system in Sicily is leading the process of setting up support schemes and structures which may help young people to consider self-employment and create their own companies as a chance for their future. This process concerns guidance services for undergraduates approaching their degree exam, including work placements and seminars on entrepreneurship, and at post-graduate level to encourage young people who have just concluded initial education to try to convey innovative ideas into knowledge-intensive companies, research results into patents and research teams into an SME managing group.

Several initiatives stem from the University of Palermo, the host institution, such as: university incubator, industrial liaison office, technological laboratory centre and guidance centre. These are all targeted to develop entrepreneurial culture and reinforce collaboration between education and production systems in order to boost technology transfer and increase job opportunities for new graduates.

**WHAT?**

Participants will learn about:

- university-enterprise cooperation projects;
- spin-off from research carried out in university labs;
- the technology transfer process from research centres into the productive system through work placements and joint research projects.

**HOW?**

Participants will:

- visit a university business incubator;
- meet some spin-off innovative companies;
- meet guidance counsellors supporting students through on-the-job training opportunities, career plans and job banks.

**WHOM?**

- Directors of education and vocational training institutions, centres or providers,
- representatives of employers' organisations,
- representatives of local, regional and national authorities,
- representatives of trade unions.

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[www.associazionesintesi.it/homeENG.html](http://www.associazionesintesi.it/homeENG.html) – [www.confindustriasicilia.it](http://www.confindustriasicilia.it)  
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Palermo>

## LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT IN SCHOOLS AND TRAINING PROVIDERS

# Leadership and management in VET: national and local practices in Finland

Group No: **183**Round **2**Type of visit:  
**VET****23/4/2012-27/4/2012**  
**Helsinki, Finland**Working language:  
**English**Number of places: **15**  
Minimum required: **8**

Keywords:

- **leadership and management**
- **quality assurance**
- **teachers' and trainers' competences**

**CATEGORY OF THEMES:**

Support initial and continuous training of teachers, trainers and education and training institutions' managers

This visit is organised by the host institution in cooperation with the European Commission addressing specifically policy and decision-makers in education and training to transfer and share experience.

**WHY?**

Vocational education and training (VET) and vocational competences play a key role in terms of economic competitiveness and prosperity. According to a Cedefop and TTnet (teachers and trainers network) study on a competence framework for VET professions, leaders in charge of VET have to work beyond school borders and meet expectations of the labour market and society as a whole. The important role of leaders in managing change and development of education and training has been recognised at EU level. Where do they find the motivation and competences to be visionaries, to enable innovation and develop their institutions?

**WHAT?**

Participants will learn about:

- national steering mechanisms for developing VET, including funding principles, qualifications, quality management;
- models for implementing and developing curricula;
- autonomy and responsibilities of VET leaders, managing VET institutions, including competence development at local level;
- quality assurance mechanisms in VET;
- training needs analysis, such as skills anticipation at sectoral level;
- examples of pedagogical leadership;
- empowering and managing competence development of teachers and trainers;
- strategic planning of international activities.

**HOW?**

Participants will:

- meet VET policy-makers and stakeholders: representatives of the Ministry of Education and Culture, the Finnish National Board of Education, social partners, regional and local authorities;
- meet leaders, teachers, students, VET researchers;
- visit quality awarded initial and continuous VET institutions;
- share and discuss examples of good practice.

**WHOM?**

- Directors of education and vocational training institutions, centres or providers,
- representatives of employers' organisations,
- representatives of local, regional and national authorities,
- representatives of trade unions.

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