

# A NEW DIDACTICAL VET-TRAINING MODEL FOR DISADVANTAGED YOUNG LEARNERS



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## NEW-D

## Now, let's spread the word...

After two years of transnational work the Erasmus+ co-sponsored NEW-D project has come to an end. Partners from eight organisations in seven countries have worked hard, thus trying to contribute to a better didactical approach to support teachers, trainers and company tutors in their demanding work in vocational education and training (VET) in schools, training centres and enterprises.

The NEW-D project partners developed guidelines and a curriculum to assist teachers, trainers and tutors in delivering a person- and client-centred service to young disadvantaged learners. Based on the needs

of the learners, both guidelines and curriculum include cutting-edge learning theories and exciting ideas for a modern and successful pedagogical approach in VET.

While the NEW-D Guidelines booklet presents didactical processes in a compact form, include numerous practical hints and follow a clear colour-coded structure, the NEW-D Curriculum is a full-scale ECVET-based training course for teachers, trainers and tutors. Both products can be used independently and interested people are more than welcome to download them from the project website at [www.new-d.eu](http://www.new-d.eu) and/or get in touch with one of the project partners for further information.



**Both the *NEW-D Guidelines* and the *NEW-D Curriculum* are a compact mélange of the latest hands-on material to assist teachers, trainers and company tutors in their challenging job to educate young disadvantaged people.**



W. Berger (JAW), M. Ehmann (City of Graz): Opening the NEW-D Conference  
M.-L. Leitner (JAW): Speaker and R. Schuen (JAW): Moderator

## Final Conference held in Graz, Austria

The final NEW-D Conference took place on 27 September 2016 in Graz, Austria. The conference, which was hosted by the project promoter Jugend am Werk Steiermark, was opened by Micheal EHMANN, City Councillor for Social Affairs and Work of the City of Graz, and Walerich BERGER, Managing Director of Jugend am Werk Steiermark.

At the event, more than 100 visitors learned more about the NEW-D approach. The partners looked back on a successful two-year project period, presented the NEW-D Guidelines and the NEW-D Curriculum and reported on the pilot phase, during which the curriculum was implemented and tested in several partner countries.

The two keynote speeches by Ms Elke LAMBAUER of KOST Steiermark and Ms Muna HAMOUD-SEIFRIED of the Austrian Labour Market Service focused on preventing dropout at the gateway between school and work and on the preventing dropout through the new Austrian legislation that introduces the obligation for education till the age of 18.

The NEW-D conference finished with a panel discussion, which also gave the audience the possibility to present their views and concerns in connection with the topic of dropout prevention and VET for disadvantaged young learners.

### IN TWO NEW-D YEARS...

... **we understood** better the needs, requirements and life realities of the target group: learners in VET who are disadvantaged because of their ethnic, social, economic and religious background; and deducting implications for an appropriate didactical response.

... **we developed** a didactical model on the basis of an initial research and exploration work and on the basis of findings from the field of development psychology and neurophysiology.

... **we developed** guidelines for a didactical model and a training curriculum for VET teachers, trainers and tutors in schools, training organisations and enterprises.

... **we implemented** a training programme for VET teachers, trainers and tutors from schools, VET organisations and enterprises on the basis of the developed material. Implementing a multiplication and sustainability strategy and measuring the impact of the project on drop-out and failure rates in VET.



Impressions from the Final NEW-D Conference



## WHAT PARTICIPANTS SAID ABOUT THE NEW-D TRAINING COURSE...

» The NEW-D pilot course provided me with relevant topics and useful tools. «

*Participant from Italy*

» I was better able to communicate with my students. «

*Participant from Denmark*

» I had a broader perspective on my pupils' ways of life. «

*Participant from Denmark*

» Since almost the entire content was adapted to our practical needs I was able to try out a lot. «

*Participant from Austria*

» I tried out the scavenger hunt and students liked it 😊 «

*Participant from Italy*

» The new tools made me more relaxed, and I was able to react in a new way in various situations. «

*Participant from Austria*

## NEW-D Curriculum piloted



Between April and July 2016, project partners from Austria, Denmark, Germany, Ireland, Italy, and Turkey trained teachers, trainers and company tutors in applying the NEW-D guidelines and materials in their everyday work.

The participants took part in a free 30-hour training programme to improve on their didactical competences in dealing with young learners with a difficult background. The feedback for the project partners was very good and proved the partnership right in their way of approaching the pressing topic of dropout prevention.

In seven modules (ten units), the course dealt with the topics of learning theories, learning environment, classroom-based and non-classroom-based work, the teacher's/trainer's/tutor's attitude towards her/his learners, the role of the teacher/trainer/tutor as a link between school, work and private environment, and conflict resolution and mediation.

The NEW-D Curriculum is available for download in the partner languages at [www.new-d.eu](http://www.new-d.eu).



## Final Partner Meeting in Graz, Austria

Partners from all partner countries met for the final project meeting in Graz, AT on 26 September 2016. They reported on the implementation phase in the various countries and prepared for the final conference.

Wrapping up the two project years, all partners expressed their strong belief that NEW-D had made a good and sustainable contribution to prevent young disadvantaged people from dropping out from their education pathways.



NEW-D Conference in Graz, Austria

## The NEW-D Partnership

The New-D project partners belong to a network of experienced organisations with the potential to introduce creative and inter-disciplinary innovations into VET. The project team comprises representatives from initial and lifelong VET training; corporate VET training; VET networking and pedagogical development. Organisations from Austria, Denmark, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Slovenia, and Turkey are involved in this project; they are highly experienced and specialised in their fields and bring a wealth of experience and knowledge to the project. The consortium was able to capture an accurate snapshot of the different approaches to VET for disadvantaged youth, and the different challenges and needs of disadvantaged youth, across Europe.

## CONTACT US

Get in touch with the project representative from your country or the project coordinator for more information on the topic and the project.

Visit our website at  
[www.new-d.eu](http://www.new-d.eu)

Join us on Facebook at  
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