

## NEWSLETTER

### Issue 4

# NATIONAL AUTHORITIES FOR APPRENTICESHIP: COMPANIES AS SUSTAINABLE PARTNERS FOR APPRENTICESHIP IN GREECE AND CYPRUS

The **Final Dissemination Conference** of the Erasmus+ Project “National Authorities of Apprenticeship: Companies as Sustainable Partners for Apprenticeship in Greece and Cyprus” (NAAGRCY) was held on 17 February 2017, at the CEDEFOP premises in Thessaloniki (Pylea), Greece.



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The Conference was opened by Mr **Loukas Zahilas** (Head of Department for VET Systems and Institutions, CEDEFOP), Ms **Ramona Carmen David Craescu** (Department for Learning and Employability, CEDEFOP), and Mr **Joao Santos** (Deputy Head of Unit, Unit E3, VET, Apprenticeship and Adult Learning, DG EMPL, European Commission).



Addresses were delivered by Mr **Paulos Haramis**, Vice President of the Institute of Educational Policy (IEP), Greece; Mr **Georgios Kavathas**, President of the General Confederation of Professionals, Craftsmen and Traders of Greece (GSEVEE); Mr **Georgios Moustakas**, Director of the Technical-Vocational Education Department of the Greek Ministry of Education, Research and Religious Affairs; and Ms **Soula Papadia**, Inspector of Secondary Technical and Vocational Education, on behalf of the Cypriot Ministry of Education and Culture.

In the main section of the Conference, Ms **Athanasia Theodoridou**, NAAGRCY Project Manager and Director of International Relations of the Greek Public Employment Service (OAED), presented the content, overall development and outcomes of the project, while Ms **Isabelle Le Mouillour**, representing the German Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (BIBB), focused on the development of the in-company Apprenticeship procedure. Subsequently, Mr **Vassilis Siomadis**, Responsible for IME GSEVEE European Projects, discussed the characteristics of the specific entrepreneurial environment in Greece, while the Cypriot entrepreneurial environment was presented by Ms **Monica Andreou**, Officer of the Department of Education and European Programs, Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCCI).

Representing the Labour Institute of the General Confederation of Greek Workers (INE GSEE), Ms **Ira Papageorgiou** and Ms **Natasha Betziou** focused their presentation on the specific labour environment in Greece. Ms **Maria Nika**, IEP Consultant C, developed the topic of the training of in-company trainers. Mr **Gerasimos Karoulas**, on behalf of IME GSEVEE, referred to the establishment of Intermediary Apprenticeship Networks. The representatives of the OAED Apprenticeship Vocational Schools (EPAS) of Moschato (Attica) and Argolis, Mr. **Nikos Poulakos** and Ms **Ioanna Koloriza** presented the outcomes of the piloting of the NAAGRCY project in Greece. The piloting of the project in Cyprus was then discussed by Mr **Andreas Polydorou, Senior Instructor** of the Cyprus Productivity Centre (CPC). The section of presentations was closed by the NAAGRCY Project external evaluator, Mr. **Dimitris Lemonakis**, on behalf of KEDROS SA. Finally, Ms **Athanasia Theodoridou**, the NAAGRCY Project Manager, presented the conclusions of the Final Dissemination Conference.



## **The Outcomes of the NAAGRCY Project**

The NAAGRCY project, through its investigation of good practices, is going to help develop relevant mechanisms for improving the ability of Vocational Education and Training to respond to the changing demands of the labour market. By further developing these good practices, the attractiveness of VET in Greece and Cyprus will also be enhanced.

Besides, the project will also help companies invest in their human resources and enhance their participation in Apprenticeship programmes. This will be achieved by providing specific guidelines and a methodology about the development of in-company training (on-the-job training) regulations, the cooperation of Vocational Education schools and companies, the (further) training of in-company trainers, the conditions of VET provision by companies, and the apprentice examination and certification procedures.

Indeed, one of the NAAGRCY project's key deliverables is the development of a Methodological Guide that can help upgrade companies to quality Apprenticeship venues.

An Apprenticeship network is thus going to be established, with a view to enhancing the links between apprentices and companies, as well as between companies and VET Schools. The successful piloting of the NAAGRCY project (in the occupational specialties of Car Mechanics and Cooks, in Greece; and Car Mechanics and Hairdressers, in Cyprus) highlighted the effectiveness of the common quality standards defined on the basis of good practices from the German Dual VET System. More widely, it is also expected that the project will contribute to the development of common European and national policies for Apprenticeship.

## Information

For further information about the NAAGRCY project  
you may visit the project website:

<http://naagrcy.oaed.gr>

Alternatively, you may email:

- the NAAGRCY Project Manager, Ms **Athanasia Theodoridou**,  
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## Project Partners

