



## Wellness and Spa Tourism Sectoral Skills' Development – WeSkill

### NEWSLETTER 1

**Programme:** Erasmus +  
**Project №:** 621401-EPP-1-2020-1-BG-EPPKA2-SSA  
**Duration:** 01.11.2020 – 31.10.2023

### Partners

1. Institute for Training of Personnel in International Organizations (ITPIO), Bulgaria
2. Bulgarian Tourist Chamber (BTC), Bulgaria
3. Zemedelska profesionalna gimnaziya "Kliment Timiryazev" (ZPG), Bulgaria
4. Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Vocational education and Training (CPI), Slovenia
5. Savinjsko-šaleška Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SSGZ), Slovenia
6. College of Hospitality and Tourism Maribor (CHT), Slovenia
7. National Centre for Education (VISC), Latvia
8. Latvian resort's association (LRA), Latvia
9. Riga Style and Fashion Technical school (RSMT), Latvia
10. DIMITRA Education & Consulting SA, Greece
11. Hellenic Association of Municipalities with Thermal Springs (HATS), Greece
12. Serbian health, wellness and spa tourism cluster (ZVST), Serbia
13. Pharmaceutical - Physiotherapeutic School (FFS), Serbia
14. Tiber Umbria Comett Education Programme (TUCEP), Italy
15. FEDERTURISMO CONFINDUSTRIA (FC), Italy
16. GROUPE AFORMAC (AFORMAC), France
17. Union des métiers des industries de l'hôtellerie du puy de dôme (UMIH), France
18. Inthecity Project Development (Inthecity), Netherlands
19. World Federation of Hydrotherapy and Climatotherapy (FEMTEC), Italy

### BRIEF OVERVIEW

The health and wellness trend has continued to grow across Europe as more individuals realize the importance of leading a healthy and active lifestyle.

The main challenge in the further development of the wellness tourism in response to the growing interest of tourists, as well as of the demand for wellness packages that include diversity of services is availability of qualified staff.

### SPECIFIC GOALS

- Updating of skills, new skills for new fully relevant to the labour market in the sector jobs
- Mobile EU workforce, mobility
- Matching between skills and labour market needs, bridging the gap between education and work, improving synergy between the worlds of education and work
- Equipping young people for the job market, fostering studying abroad in EU
- Equipping adults/employees from the sector being trainees with the missing skills, by using a strong modern personalized didactic tool
- Enhance job expectations of trainees through up-skilling of the young and adults
- With mobile app development and the promotion of the app usage, we will try to make wellness and spa tourism sector more appealing, sustainable, advanced and competitive in the EU area

### MAIN ACTIVITIES

- Project management; Quality assurance and evaluation; Defining skills gaps and training needs; Curricula design (EQF level 4); Development of multilingual training mobile app and platform; Piloting; Dissemination and Exploitation.

### MAIN PROJECTS TARGET GROUPS

- IVET and CVET providers in tourism
- Wellness tourism companies
- Sectoral tourism organizations
- VET teachers and in-company tutors in the sector
- VET students
- National qualification authorities outside the partnership

### EXPECTED RESULTS

- Report on findings of skills gaps research in existing data sources (desk research) in the 7 participating countries and in addition in 4 EU countries beyond the partnership
- Development of complete, transferable and "ready to use" 5 curricula
- Involvement of all key stakeholders' representatives in consultation workshops aimed at validation of the curricula developed
- Creating and adopt/transfer/localize learning materials (handbook, exercises, simulations, tests)
- Performing national pilot trainings covering 2 target groups
- Conducting Curricula implementation workshops in all 7 project countries
- Development of a specific mobile app for support training modules
- Establishment of non-formal new Sectoral Alliance on VET excellence in wellness and spa tourism

### CURRENT ACTIVITIES

Currently, all project partners are working on work package 3 "Defining skills gaps and training needs" which is the research phase of the project. It consists of conducting of a desk research, field research for skills gaps identification, creation of report on findings of skills gaps research in existing data sources and report on survey findings. The results from them will be available soon.

For more information: [info@itpio.eu](mailto:info@itpio.eu)

*The European Commission's support for the production of this publication does not constitute an endorsement of the contents, which reflect the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.*