

## WBL-PRO Professional Peer Network: The team talks with the professionals – Sandra Rosi, Treviso, Italy

Today we are very happy to present to you what one of the Italian professionals we have met has shared with us. Please get acquainted with **Sandra Rosi** from USRV - Italy, teacher at Vocational Institute "Giorgi Institute" from Treviso



Please find below what he has shared with the WBL-PRO team:

**1. Please share with us what the main advantages with respect to work-based learning are.**

Work-based learning is an important part of our educational system, especially for vocational centres. Schools and companies cooperate to prepare students to live and work in a fast-changing environment. Students become more responsible, they can put what they learn at school into practice, they can acquire new professional and life skills, they get ready to face the challenges of the market. This will enhance their future employment opportunities. Work-based learning also helps students choose the right profession for their future.

**2. Please share with us what the main challenges with respect to work-based learning area.**

One of the main challenges is changing people's attitude towards work-based experiences and dispell any doubt which school staff, families or companies can have about it. It is necessary to share the importance and the advantages of WBL not only inside the school, but also with all the stakeholders, including companies and families. It is also necessary to have skilled professionals who can cooperate with the companies and accompany the students.

**3. Please share information about work-based learning projects you are involved in – the name, the funding program, the main aims, the target groups, the intellectual outputs, link to website, facebook group, etc.**

Our school has been implementing work-based learning activities for more than 10 years, long before it became compulsory in schools. This is why we have established good relations with local companies and with professional organizations (Unindustria Treviso - Association of Industries, Confartigianato - Association of craft enterprises, Chamber of Commerce..) to implement WBL experiences. As far as mobility experiences are concerned, in 2015/2016 our school took part in the project VET-PRISE 2015 - n. 2015-1-IT01-KA102-004500 which brought students to Spain, Germany and Poland for WBL (<http://herasmusplace.altervista.org/index.html>). In 2017 we took part in a project funded by EU and Veneto Region which brought students to the UK for a WBL experience (<http://giorgifermi.gov.it/index.php/swa>).

**4. Please share what the most important knowledge, skills and competences for the work-based learning professional are according to you. What kind of trainings are necessary to acquire them?**

The work-based learning specialist should:

- have good knowledge of the educational system as well as of the market;
  - clearly understand the principles on which WBL is based;
  - be able to design and develop customized projects;
  - have good communication skills and ability to work in a team;
  - have problem-solving abilities
- and many more ....

I think a formal training is absolutely necessary for those who are responsible for or involved in carrying out WBL projects (a course for WBL professionals is quite useful).

Please feel most welcome to like our facebook page and join the linkedin group to get acquainted with many best practices and other useful materials, tools and resources supporting the high quality performance of work-based professionals around Europe and beyond its borders!

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