

WBL-PRO Professional Peer Network: The team talks with the professionals – Anna Portarska, Sofia, Bulgaria

It is our pleasure to present to you **Anna Portarska** – author and manager of many projects related to youth integration into the labour market at national and international level. She provides personal as well as vocational orientation trainings to young people and manages No Aim No Gain platform for vocational orientation using coaching methods.



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

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

According to certain surveys work-based learning takes 70% of the effective models of human resources development. Undoubtedly it is because WBL:

- uses more learning channels
- provides possibility for immediate implementation and upgrade of the learning outcomes
- not only provides knowledge but skills as well, inspires motivation and personal involvement of the learner

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

My experience shows that people learn and develop when they are in adequate and supporting environment. Difficulties in Bulgaria are mainly related to the lack of well-prepared mentors who not only transfer their experience but also motivate, inspire and "infect" with love towards the profession. Another factor for difficulties is the lack of work-based learning standards.

3. Please describe any solutions with respect to challenges and/or weaknesses related to work-based learning.

- Elaboration of a training program for mentors at the workplace
- Work-based learning standards, coordination between the educational system, the business and the public institutions, WBL system to become part of the educational system

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

- Mentorship and coaching
- Motivational skills
- Difficult situations solving skills
- Presentation skills
- Skills for working with young people

5. 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.

Education 4.0, Erasmus+ Program, Strategic Partnerships

The project is aiming at achieving equality between theoretical and practical training with priority of the learning and production practice and providing of effective professional preparation through complete simulation of a production process with teaching objectives.

The project team will create three training modules based on 3D modelling with augmented reality for 76 learning units from the curricula of the following professions: Machine Technician, Machine Operator, Mechanical Fitter, Fitter, Welder, Turner, Electrician, Layer, Automation Technician and Automation Layer. The design of e-learning content with augmented reality and 3D visualization will support trainers in their work and facilitate the practical understanding and perception of the lessons as it will allow for virtual simulation of different processes due to production commands and actions by displaying relevant results from those actions. The analysis of these results will bring about optimal decision making for reactions to various real production situations in the future professional life of the trainees.

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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