

YES Employability

March 2012
Newsletter Issue 7

2009-1-MT1-LE005-00001
www.yesemployability.eu

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Welcome and goodbye

Welcome to the seventh and last issue of the official newsletter of the YES Employability Project. The scope of this newsletter, published by the Institute of Tourism Studies (Malta), was to keep the partners in this project and stakeholders in the Tourism and Hospitality Industry updated on the latest endeavours of this project.

This is the last newsletter of YES Project as this has come to an end in February 2012. However a new newsletter will be issued by the [Tourism Educators Network \(TEN\)](#), which is taking over TEEMPASS, the database of competencies in hospitality developed in the YES Project.

The newsletter is also available on the YES Project website:
www.yesemployability.eu

Final Conference held in Cyprus

The YES Employability 4th Project Steering Committee Meeting and Final Conference were held in Larnaca, Cyprus, between the 15th and the 17th February 2012.

Mr Michael Charlistos, from the Technical School of Larnaca, opened the concluding Final Conference by reminding the objectives of the YES Employability Project.

Mr Ray Vassallo, the international project leader from the leading partner, the Institute of Tourism Studies, explained with satisfaction that the project was being concluded and that a lot had been accomplished from its inception. Although partners were from different countries, with different cultures, backgrounds and languages and work ethics, together with determination they managed to achieve successful goals and results.

He continued by commenting that the origin of the YES Employability was the NEW Hospitality Project., whereby he gave



Mr. Andreas Louroutjiatis representing the Mayor of Larnaca addressing the Final Conference.



Mr. Ilias Markatjes, Director of Vocational and Technical Education at the Cyprus Department of Education.



The YES Project Partner representatives and distinguished guests.



The Steering Committee Meeting.

a brief description of the work that had been carried out. Thus the aim of the YES Project was to extend the results of the NEW Hospitality project to Mediterranean countries and to increase the database of the previous project in order to facilitate their adjustment to the European Credit Transfer and Recognition System.

Extensive research was held in the 4 countries, including an analysis of profiles, a review of the existing certification systems, study panels, and transfer guidelines were drawn up in order to ensure that the new instrument under construction would actually respond to the real needs of the transfer countries.

Work on the adaptation of the original software (originally on CD rom) resulted in www.teempass.eu, a new user-friendly graphical user interface that is available on the internet in the 5 languages of the partner countries.

The final phase, the mainstreaming of the TEEMPASS product, complete with guidelines, tools and resources for proper use of the software have been compiled in a package for teachers and trainers. Furthermore, the Tourism Educators Network (TEN) has been created to continue the development, maintenance and upkeep of the new database application.



The distinguished guests at the conference included Mr. Ilias Markatjes, from the Ministry of Education in Cyprus; Mr. Andreas Louroutjiates, representing the Mayor of Larnaca; and Mr John Kouis, of the Cyprus Tourism Organisation.

Representatives of the partners in the YES Project then briefed participants on the work done during the project, especially the research on competences and the creation of TEEMPASS.

A Steering Committee Meeting was also held on the eve of the conference. The partners discussed the final commitments of the projects and how the Tourism Educators Network (TEN) will take over the TEEMPASS and promote it so that it not shelved.

Memorandum of Understanding signed to create the Tourism Educators Network (TEN)

The Memorandum of Understanding leading to the creation of the Tourism Educators Network (TEN) was signed in Larnaca, Cyprus, on the 17th February 2012, on the occasion of the concluding conference of the YES Employability Project.

The signatories of the MoU are the partners of the YES Employability Project, namely the Institute of Tourism Studies (ITS) as the lead partner, the Centre for Advanced Studies in Tourism (Italy), ARTES srl (a research firm from Italy), the Malta Hotels and Restaurants Association, the Portuguese Association of Hotel Directors (ADHP), and INSESP/ SOFATI (Portugal), the Technical Institute of Larnaca and the Cyprus Chefs Association.

TEN will take over TEEMPASS.eu, the online database of competencies in hospitality produced by the YES Employability Project and will make sure it is sustained and developed in the future.

TEN chapters are being formed in the YES Employability partner countries and other European countries, including Germany, the Netherlands and Ireland, with TEN-MT, the Malta Chapter, playing a leading role.

The Agreement to set up the Tourism Educators Network (TEN) and its logo



Visit the TEEMPASS Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/teempass>





Research on tourism perceptions officially launched

The book “Tourism Education, Employability and Mobility in four Mediterranean Countries” published as part of the YES Employability Project, was officially launched at a meeting of the HR Forum of the Malta Hotels and Restaurants Association (MHRA) held on Friday 2nd March 2012 at the Grand Hotel Excelsior, Floriana, Malta.

The book published the results of research done as part of the Yes Employability Project that has just ended. It is available for download in PDF format from the YES website.



The publication was well-received by the attending HR executives from the most prominent hotels establishments in Malta. They commended the initiative and said there was much need of similar studies.

Raymond J. Vassallo, the editor of the book, explained the idea behind the publication.

David Pace then explained the main results of the study and answered questions about the methodology. Afterwards Martin Debattista showed TEEMPASS, the online database of competences in the hospitality industry created as part of the project.



Mr Vassallo then announced the creation of the Tourism Educators Network (TEN), which will maintain and expand TEEMPASS now that the YES Project has ended. The Malta Chapter, TEN-MT is active. The website is: www.ten-mt.org

Project Partners



Institute of Tourism Studies: Bajja San Ġorġ, San Ġiljan, Malta

Tel: 00356 2379 3274 Fax: 00356 2137 5472

email: ray.vassallo@gov.mt

www.its.edu.mt

This project has been funded with the support of the European Commission. This communication reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.