Education and Culture DG

Lifelong Learning Programme

TRANSFER OF INNOVATIONS

MANDATORY TRAINING IN PRACTICE FIRMS AT VEI

Project number: LLP-LdV-TOI-2011-LT-0090

21-24 February 2012

Partners meeting, Lithuania

ЦЕНТЪР НА УЧЕБНО-ТРЕНИРОВЪЧНИТЕ ФИРМИ

THE SURVEY WAS CONDUCTED AMONG

- **668 students**
- **73 teachers – PF trainers**
- **37 principals**
- **Bulgarian Centre of Training Firms**
- **10 experts from Ministry of Education, Youth and Science**

STUDENTS SURVEY – MAIN CONCLUSIONS

- Nearly half of the students **feel as working in a real company**; the other feel some situations as real.
- **Ability to take responsibility for your own actions** is the most important ability they develop in PF; the abilities to reach goal, to find information; solve problems and make decisions are also very important.
- Most likely, yes and yes, absolutely they **will be able to apply skills and knowledge in their future career**.
- Main **advantages** for the students:

- preparation for **real-life situations;**
- **practical application** of knowledge;
- **business experience** and **teamwork** skills.

TRAINERS SURVEY – MAIN CONCLUSIONS

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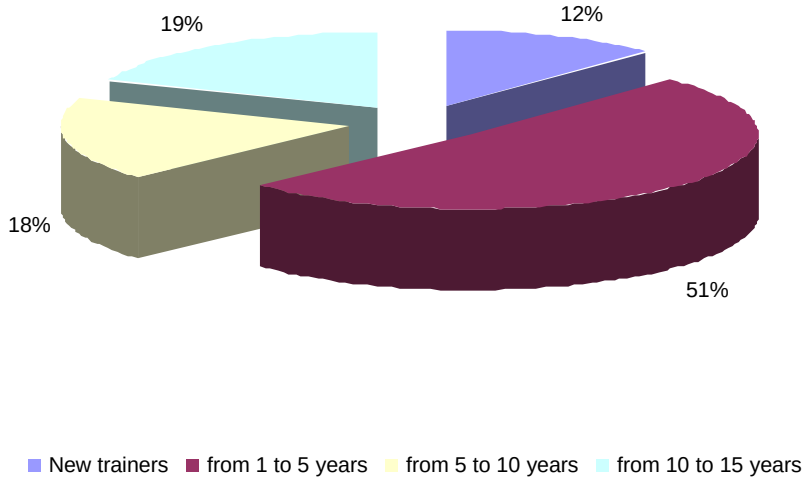
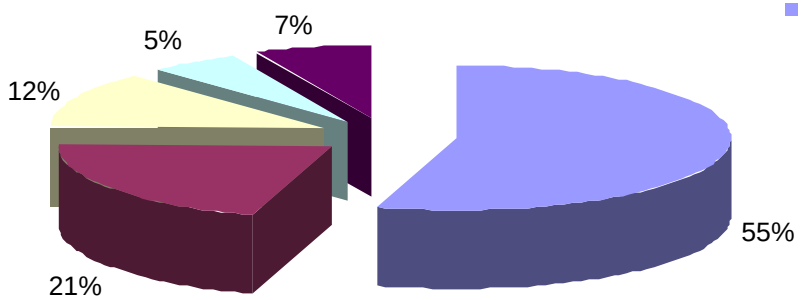
- About half of the trainers have from **1 to 5 years experience**.

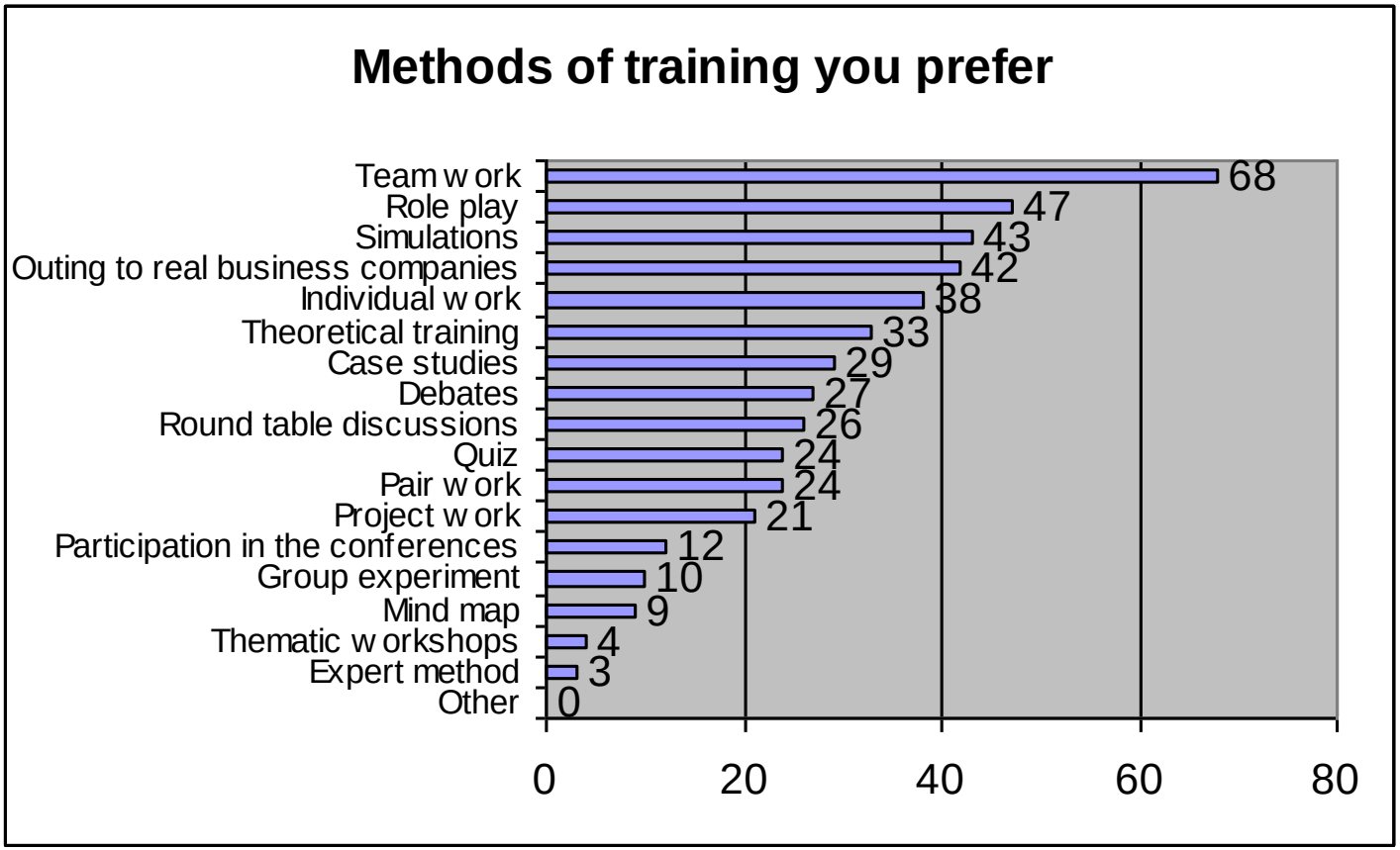




- More than half of the trainers are in charge of **one** PF.

1 practice firm 2 practice firms 3 practice firms 4 practice firms 5 practice firms

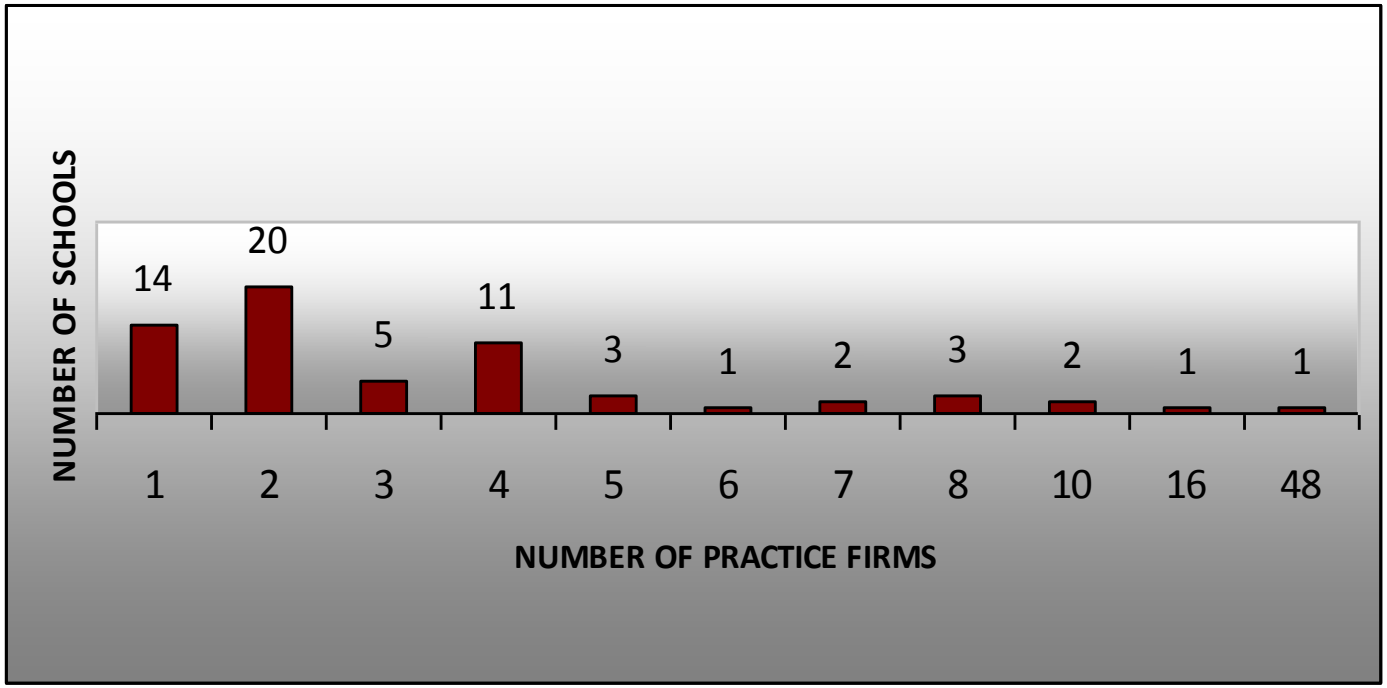
TRAINERS SURVEY – MAIN CONCLUSIONS



- Most of the trainers prefer **team work** and half of them find it **sufficient**.

PRINCIPALS SURVEY – MAIN CONCLUSIONS

- Most of the schools have **from 2 to 4 practice firms**.



PRINCIPALS SURVEY – MAIN CONCLUSIONS

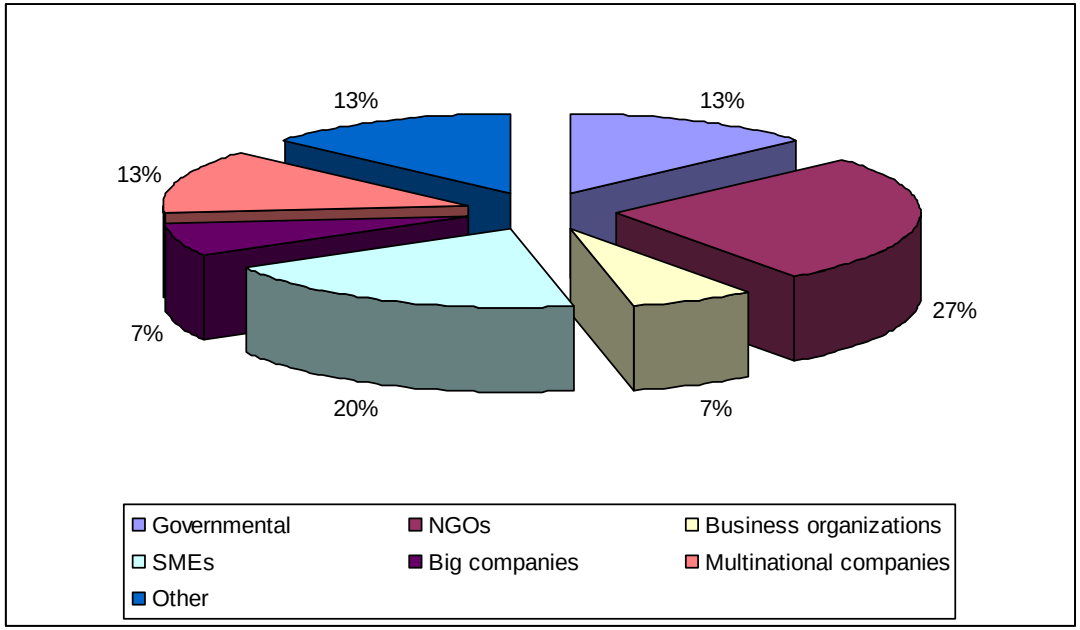
- The main **disadvantages** principals find:

- **Very few hours** in the curriculum
- Difficulties to achieve connection with **real business partners**
- Lack of **targeted** financing
- **Inadequate** facilities
- Need for **methodological support** for the PF trainers

CENTRAL OFFICE SURVEY – MAIN CONCLUSIONS

- About half of the institutions are within **secondary vocational schools of economics**
- **3354 trainees** for the current year
- **229 trainers** passed seminars /2010-2011/

Central Office partners



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION SURVEY – MAIN CONCLUSIONS

- Policy makers and experts from the Ministry know something about PFs, but **are not very well informed** about the financing, current situation and future prospects of the training.

- A training and **informational campaign** should be specially planned for the Ministry!

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RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Students'** recommendations:
  - **Financial** support and investment
  - Increasing the number of lessons and **time spent at PF**
  - Providing modern and specialized **equipment**

- **Trainers'** recommendations:
  - Targeted **funding**
  - Increasing the **number** of lessons
  - **Inclusion** of PF as mandatory training in all schools with economic specialties

- **Principals'** recommendations:
  - Increasing the **number** of lessons
  - Implementation of PF **in all economic specialties and different type of schools**
  - Provision of constant initial and continuing **training** for teachers-trainers of PF

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MANDATORY TRAINING IN PRACTICE FIRMS

- Main **advantages**:
  - Participation of **all** students
  - Uncoverage of **strengths** of more students
  - **Clear** regulations and procedures
  - Better **facilities**
  - Better **risk management**

- **Main disadvantages**:
  - Problems with the **discipline** of the not-so-motivated
  - **Less freedom** of action and initiative for students
  - Mandatory training needs **adequate financing and resources**