

# Go&Learn initiative

# CONCEPT SUMMARY

G&L European Network Management Body



The Go&Learn initiative is a multilateral network supported by the EU LLP funds. It is aimed to organize and manage an international catalogue of study visits to be carried out inside companies all around Europe. The visits have training and guidance aims and should be considered as Training Units that can be proposed to a vast range of users: students of vocational and secondary school, university, employed and unemployed people, teachers and trainers. The hosting companies are strongly committed in training and in knowledge propagation, allowing the visiting groups to learn directly from the source of knowledge, experience and innovation, which is the company itself. Detailed and updated information about the network members, the activities and services available are available in the official website of the project: [www.goandlearn.eu](http://www.goandlearn.eu) and in the national websites of the project partners.

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This paper as well as all the other reference documents of the G&L initiative is available for download in digital format in the official initiative website:

[www.goandlearn.eu](http://www.goandlearn.eu)



Lifelong  
Learning  
Programme

**LIFELONG LEARNING PROGRAMME 2011 - MULTILATERAL NETWORK  
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## Go&Learn Initiative Concept Summary

### Introduction

Vocational education and training has a key role in supporting the aims of the Europe 2020 strategy. This strategy makes clear that it's fundamental to encourage more workplace learning experiences, a closer collaboration and partnerships between public services, education and training providers and employers, at several levels and a greater validation of skills and competences acquired in non-formal and informal contexts.

The Go&Learn initiative offers the chance to access an international catalogue of training seminars and/or guidance visits aimed to the discovery of local economic fabrics and to the propagation of knowledge. It is aimed to build a local and international frame that can help to solve some of the following essential problems:

- mobility programs foresee long periods of permanence
- standardization of the mobility experience is quite low
- inadequate support given to education and training providers: missing transnational mobility as a standard part of their curricula
- no evident training role of companies: particularly SMEs not able to create a learning environment combining formal and non formal learning
- low level of mutual interest in and understanding of a neighbouring country's economic fabric and history
- lack of information about all the opportunities related to mobility addressed both to workers and to students

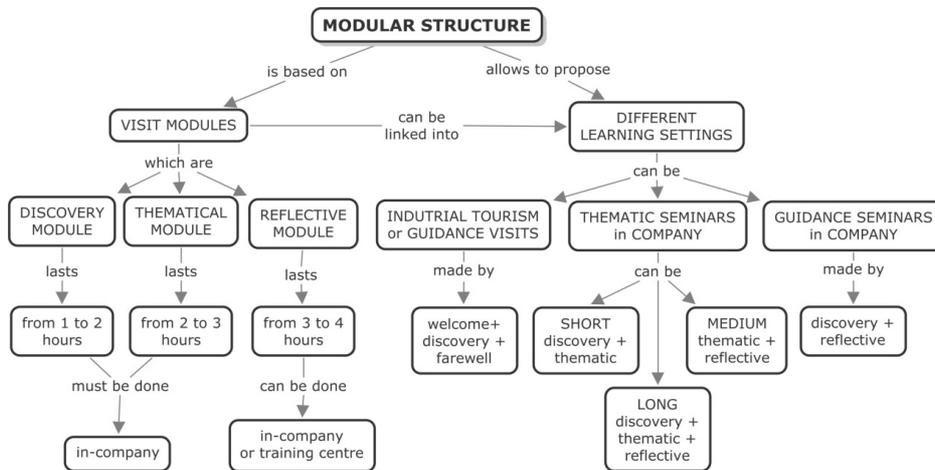
### Rationale and Aims

G&L modules will create an original new perspective and a new frame of relationships between schools and companies as well as between informal/non-formal learning. The G&L initiative will search and develop operative solutions in three directions:

1. **Exploiting the training role of SMEs, as there is the need of a “formalization” of the non-formal learning**
  - ➔ G&L aims to exploit a training role setting suitable for the SMEs, in order to integrate national educational and VET offers. Companies can provide a broad, state-of-the-art, detailed view of local products and services, organization and technology, culture and experience
  - ➔ G&L catalogue will include a network of certified training companies
2. **Fostering mobility for students and workers**
  - ➔ The possibility to attend a standard catalogue of discovery and study visits as a true added value for the professional growth of students, teachers and workers
  - ➔ Schools and companies will be able to enhance their learning programs by including robust and tested training units based on transnational mobility
  - ➔ Reducing language problems of the participants with support of interpreters and multi-lingual documentation coupled with careful pedagogical attention.
  - ➔ The catalogues as an important and concrete reference for all training providers interested in the guidance and training paths which involve companies
3. **Linking tourism to guidance and the discovery of local economy**
  - ➔ Creating new perspective and new frame of relationship between tourism and informal/non-formal learning
  - ➔ Developing different interpretations and mutual knowledge of professions and economic fabrics of the countries.
  - ➔ Increasing the possibilities of crossborder / transnational mobility, employment and entrepreneurship

## The Go & Learn idea

Within the framework of intended study visits in companies the G&L idea focuses on a set of formal **training and/or guidance units** carried out in a non-formal context, combining one or more of the following modules:



The visit modules can be characterized as follows:

### 1) **Discovery module:**

- ➔ General presentation of the hosting company profile including history, products/services, market, structure
- ➔ Entrepreneurs and production managers will be the speakers

### 2) **Thematic module:**

- ➔ In-depth illustration of a product, service, technology in which the company excels
- ➔ Company experts will illustrate the theme and accompany the visiting group to see the specific areas of the production sites related with the subject of the seminar

### 3) **Reflective module:**

- ➔ Theoretical discussion relating to the concepts learned during the visit
- ➔ Discussion is coordinated by a matter expert / tutor accompanying the group
- ➔ RM is the only module that could be carried out outside the company

### **Module's combination criteria**

All the activities described above are to be considered learning activities. On the base of their combination, **different training units are possible**. In Each G&L catalogue you can choose a combination of modules addressing the needs of the stakeholders and target groups.

### **Seminars in company**

- ➔ They are planned training units carried out in non-formal learning environments
- ➔ Target groups: students of secondary school, vocational training, apprenticeship, high education; workers and unemployed people participating in LLL actions
- ➔ The seminars are oriented to fulfil non-formal and formal learning needs, with the objective to become integral part of the standard curricula

### **Economic discovery visits**

- ➔ They are activities of discovery of economic frames. They can be: Industrial Tourism Visits aimed to foster the discovery of the local economy, enhancing existing local tourist's visits programs, or Guidance seminars/visits aimed to learn more about professions and professional settings in the local job market, enhancing existing guidance paths proposed by schools, VET, universities, employment centres.

### **Circuits**

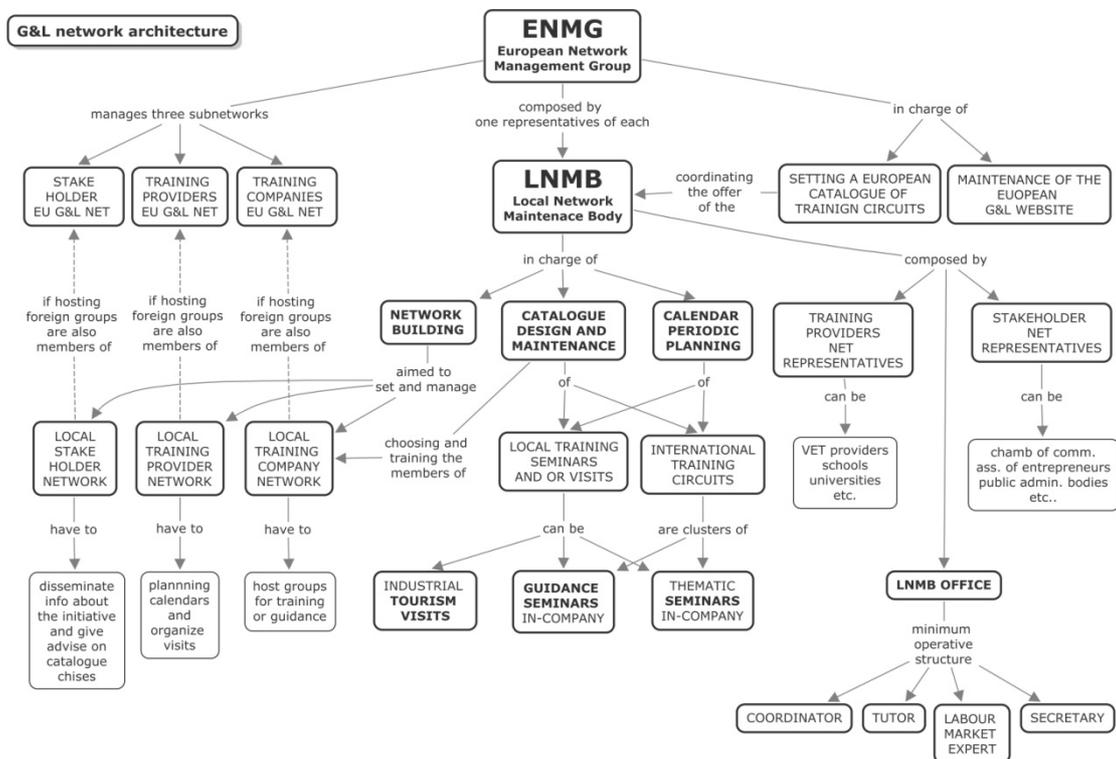
- ➔ A Circuit is a cluster of thematic seminars, guidance seminars, industrial tourism visits or any combination of them is called a Circuit. If relevant for study and guidance purposes, the Circuits will be linked to courses and training paths, if relevant for industrial tourism they can be linked to other tourism programs of discovery of the local culture, traditions and land
- ➔ The international G&L catalogue, managed by the European G&L network, is a catalogue of Circuits that can be accessed by group of participants coming from other European countries.

## G&L Network

The G&L initiative is managed and provided by a European group of local networks. The G&L initiative in fact is aimed to setup and maintain:

- ➔ a number of G&L Local Network Maintenance Body (**LNMB**) in many different countries, which will be in charge of the development, updating and management of the catalogues, the organization of the logistics and support, for the customers of the G&L services;
- ➔ the linking of all the LNMBs in a G&L European Network Management Group (**ENMG**), in charge of the maintenance of the transnational services provided by the initiative;
- ➔ those bodies (ENMG and LNMBs) all rely on three different networks supporting the activities: the **network of stakeholders** (promoting the initiative and the catalogue building strategies), the **network of training providers** (which guarantees the practical organization of activities) and the **network of training companies** (which host the training groups)

The general architecture of the network is the following:



## **G&L Services**

The G&L European and local networks are strongly committed to guarantee the development and maintenance of the G&L catalogue also after the start-up period. In order to ensure continuity the partners of each LNMB and the ENMG should offer some basic services after the project ending:

### **1) Planning of activities**

- ➔ EU circuits and tours are programmed by each hosting LNMB
- ➔ ENMG will coordinate the planning and guarantee the G&L website regular update
- ➔ preparation and collection of all the corresponding agreements and documents
- ➔ circuits/tours will be published in the G&L on-line catalogue

### **2) Pedagogical support**

- ➔ Manage the relationships with hosting companies, guaranteeing the G&L quality standards of the training units
- ➔ Support the hosted group with a local tutor, which will be with the group during the visits in the companies and will be in charge of guaranteeing a smooth organization of the logistics, bureaucratic duties and other participants' needs

### **3) Hosting and travel**

- ➔ Visits planning and support to customers to organize the trip
- ➔ Organization of local transport and transfer to the companies

## **G&L Website**

The G&L European, multilingual website is the core of the dissemination and promotional activities of the ENMG and includes:

- ➔ Official reference to the G&L circuits and tours catalogue, including host
- ➔ Web management and editing service
- ➔ G&L initiative description
- ➔ Network members' pages
- ➔ European Circuits' Catalogue and Calendar of activities
- ➔ Reference to the local catalogues managed by each LNMB member of the network
- ➔ Feed back and social networking features