

PRESS RELEASE

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mENTERing workshops and seminars show great success!

The European project mENTERing, with the aim to foster VET trainers' skills and competences in mentoring for entrepreneurs, utilized a series of pilot training sessions (workshops and webinars). To this end, two workshops took place, one in Athens, Greece and one in Pazardzhik, Bulgaria.

The two-day workshop in Athens took place on 26 and 27 March 2013 and although it was originally planned to host 20 participants, due to the increased number of applications, all the necessary adjustments were made to allow more VET trainers to participate in the workshop. Finally, 34 VET trainers who matched the selection criteria, after they received material on entrepreneurship for 3 hours of self-study, had the opportunity to develop their entrepreneurial skills through Dr. Sophia Protopapa's and Marina Larios' interactive presentation and learning activities. In the end, participants provided their feedback through the Skills Assessment questionnaire which was distributed so that they could evaluate their own mentoring skills for entrepreneurship. The outcomes show that the workshop activities managed to effectively train the participants on how to best develop their competences and become successful mentors, as 100% of the respondents said they were confident they had learned the basic principles for mentoring entrepreneurs.

The same process was followed for the second workshop in Pazardzhik which took place on 4 and 5 April 2013. In the second workshop, 22 VET trainers were trained, several of whom travelled long distances from other cities (Sofia, Sopot and Velingrad) to participate in the workshop. Just like in Athens, the workshop was very successful, a view which is enhanced by the fact that two of the participants are currently acting as mentors and run their own company, offering their services to unemployed people. This way, they were able to share the problems they meet in their work and at the same time acquire new skills to mentor unemployed who want to start their own business.

Following the workshops, three webinars took place highlighting key themes of mentoring such as strengths based mentoring, positive psychology tools and a mentoring toolkit. All webinars and the mentor's training manual e-book are available on mentering.eu/results/.



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INFORMATION

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