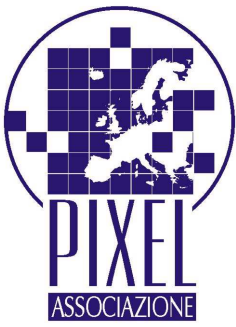




Innovative Practices in Vocational Education and Training

Study Visit





OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY VISIT

The study visit aims to provide participants with the opportunity to get to know and compare with own experience, the strategies and practices for the management of vocational education and training initiatives in Italy.

The specific objectives of the “Innovative Practices in Vocational Education and Training” Mobility Initiative is to give participants the opportunity to:

- Acquire a better understanding of the Italian and Tuscan Vocational Education and Training system
- Acquire knowledge about the current policies and strategies for the organisation and management of the Vocational Education and Training system
- Acquire information about how Vocational Education and Training systems are organised and managed in Italy and in Tuscany in particular
- Experience the delivery of lectures in the field of interest of the participants in both vocational education schools and training institutions
- Acquire information of the existing methods and experiences for the organisation and management of vocational education and training initiatives
- Share best practices with vocational education and training institutions both at public and private level
- Develop new contacts and explore opportunities of cooperation with public and private institutions operating in the Educational and Vocational Training system in Tuscany

EXPECTED RESULTS

The individuals who participate in the study visit will have the opportunity to get to know new methods, strategies and solutions for a successful management and development of educational and vocational training initiatives within the public and private Vocational Education and Training system in Italy and in Tuscany in particular.

Furthermore, the programme will give the participants the opportunity to meet with school directors and teachers, with managers of public and private training institutions and with public key policy makers operating in the vocational educational and training system and share with them experiences, problems and best practices.

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Accreditamento presso il
Ministero della Pubblica Istruzione
con Decreto del 25/07/2006

Accredited by the Italian
Ministry of Education with the
Legislative Act of 25/07/2006



Accreditamento presso la
Regione Toscana con
Decreto n. 1722 del 25/03/2003

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Council with Legislative Act n.
1722 of 25/03/2003

THE HOST ORGANIZATION

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The study visit is organized by Pixel. The mission of Pixel is the promotion of internationalization and European Cooperation.

Pixel was established in Florence (Italy) in 1999 and has therefore over 10 years of experience in the following areas:

- Organization of international training initiatives
- Organization of international study visits, mobility and exchanges
- Organization of international conferences in the field of education and training
- Direct submission as a promoter or coordinator of European projects
- Organization of international conferences in the field of education and training

In Italy, and in Tuscany in particular, Pixel cooperates with several organizations organizing and delivering vocational education and training initiatives. Pixel has also close cooperation with public bodies in charge of education and training methodologies, strategies and policies.

In Europe Pixel has several contacts with several organizations working in the field of vocational education and training, and has participated in several European projects in the field, mostly Leonardo and Comenius multilateral projects funded by the Lifelong Learning Programme. The projects in which Pixel was and is involved focus on: training of trainers, in-service teachers training, prevention of early school leaving, language training, training on tourism, training on quality issues etc. etc. More information about these projects can be found at: <http://www.pixel-online.net>.

Pixel is engaged in a constant improvement in the quality of the services performed. Pixel obtained quality certification according to UNI EN ISO 9001:2000. Pixel is accredited as an in-service education and training organization by the Ministry of Education. Pixel is accredited as a training agency by the region of Tuscany.

More information on the expertise of Pixel can be found at: <http://www.pixel-online.net>.

STAFF EXPERIENCE AND EXPERTISE

The study visit, at Pixel, is organized by:

- Dr. Elisabetta Delle Donne has over 15 years of experience in the planning and management of international education and training events. She is in charge of the creation of the programme for the group of participants, of the identification of the trainers and experts who deliver the practical course, who are chosen among the network of about 100 experts who continuously cooperate with Pixel.

- Dr. Andrea Peraldo has over 9 years experience in the planning and management of international education and training events. He is in charge of accompanying the group during each visit to the institutions, giving assistance in the use of Public transports, moderating the visit and giving linguistic assistantship when necessary

THE STUDY VISIT PROGRAMME

Day	Contents
DAY 1 Monday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of participants • Presentation of the Study Visit programme and of practical issues • The Italian Vocational Education and Training system • Changes in the Italian vocational education and training policies • Projects carried out in the vocational training sector in Tuscany • Cultural visit of Florence
DAY 2 Tuesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study visit at Vocational Training Public Secondary School “F. Enriques” of Florence. It will be possible to meet the school staff so as to learn about their strategies and practices. It will also be possible to visit the school classrooms and laboratories and attend a lecture delivered to the students and have a discussion with the teachers.
DAY 3 Wednesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study Visit at Cipat. A Regional Consortium of Public Vocational Education Schools representing over 40 public vocational education schools. It will be possible to meet the director of the consortium to learn about their experience in assisting the schools in management issues. A meeting with the staff will also be organized in order to learn about their experience and also investigate on possible cooperation.
DAY 4 Thursday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study visit at Vocational Training Public Secondary School “F. Datini” of Prato It will be possible to meet the school staff so as to learn about their strategies and practices. It will also be possible to visit the school classrooms and laboratories and attend a lecture delivered to the students and have a discussion with the teachers.
DAY 5 Friday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study visit at Vocational Training Public Secondary School “B. Cellini” of Florence. It will be possible to meet the school staff so as to learn about their strategies and practices. It will also be possible to visit the school classrooms and laboratories and attend a lecture delivered to the students and have a discussion with the teachers. • Final assessment and evaluation of the mobility initiative

GENERAL INFORMATION

Target Group	Experts, Managers, Professionals, Teachers and Trainers working in Vocational Education and Training Institutions
Languages	The classroom based activities and study visits will be held in English
Location	The classroom based activities will be held at Pixel, in Florence (Italy). The study visits will be organized in Tuscany at the sites of organizations working in the field of vocational education and training.
Practical Support	The correct development of the Study visit programme will be monitored by the organizers of the initiative at Pixel, the host institution. A representative of Pixel will be accompanying the group during each visit to the institutions, giving assistance in the use of Public transports, moderating the visit and giving linguistic assistantship when necessary.
Total Days	6 days Arrival: Sunday 13 May Departure: Sunday 20 May
Fee	€ 550 per person. The participation fee includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organizational costs: Implementation of the program locally: liaison with local bodies, preparation of the visits, , monitoring and supervision, assesemnt and evaluation • Carrying out of 3 visits to educational institutions: Tutoring during the visits, language assistance, cultural support • 2 training days with experts • 2 buffet lunches at Pixel • 3 lunches with ticket restaurants • 3 local travels, with public transport, for study visits <p>The participation fees mentioned above DO NOT include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Accommodation - Breakfasts and dinners - Transport from and to the airport on the day of arrival and departure - Costs related to all activities carried out during the free time for cultural visits (i.e. costs incurred during Saturdays and Sundays)



FURTHER INFORMATION

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