



Teacher Training

Strategies and Approaches

Mobility Initiative in Florence (Italy)



OBJECTIVES OF THE MOBILITY INITIATIVE

The Mobility Initiative aims to provide participants with the opportunity to get to know and compare with own experience, the strategies and practices for the organization of teachers training initiatives in Italy.

The specific objectives of the Mobility Initiative is to give participants the opportunity to:

- Acquire a better understanding of the Italian and Tuscan Teacher Training system
- Acquire knowledge about the current policies and strategies for the organisation and management of initial and in service teachers training activities
- Acquire information about how initial and in service teachers training initiatives are organised and managed in Italy and in Tuscany in particular
- Acquire information of the existing methods and experiences for the organisation and management of initial and in service teachers training initiatives
- Share best practices with teachers training institutions both at public and private level
- Develop new contacts and explore opportunities of cooperation with public and private institutions operating in the teachers training sector 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 teachers 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 directors and trainers of public and private teacher training institutions and with public key policy makers operating in the teacher training sector and share with them experiences, problems and best practices.

ROLE OF PIXEL AS HOST ORGANIZATION

Pixel organize the mobility initiative at local level.

Pixel is in charge of the implementation of the programme, of the liaising with local bodies, of the preparation of the visits, of the tutoring during the visits, of the language assistance, of the monitoring and supervision etc.

A representative of Pixel will be accompanying the group during each visit to the local bodies, providing practical assistance in the reaching the institutions to be visited, giving assistance during the visit, making all the necessary reciprocal introductions, moderating the visit and providing linguistic support.



RELEVANCE OF THE INITIATIVE

The Mobility Initiative is relevant to respond to the needs of the participants involved because it will give them the opportunity to:

- Better understand the specific characteristics, strength and main challenges that the teachers training sector is facing in Italy, and in Tuscany in particular, and get to know what the public bodies, universities, organizations and training agencies are doing in order to enhance the quality of the initial and in service teachers training.
- Get to know and understand, in a comparative approach, how teachers training initiatives are organised and managed in Italy and in Tuscany in particular, in order to highlight main differences and points in common with the own country system and to identify possible Best Practices to be shared.
- Have a direct contact and get to know the Italian teachers training sector through meetings with the key actors working in the field, both at Public and Private level, and therefore learning about different existing experiences and work methods of Italy.
- Share points of view with Italian colleagues, in order compare everyday challenges and common problems and share the most effective solutions adopted to face them effectively. This will give the participants involved the opportunity to develop a more aware and open minded point of view.
- Develop, during the visits to schools, universities, public bodies and training agencies working in the teachers training sector, important contacts to be exploited in future cooperation initiatives and partnerships.

PREPARATION

The participants involved in the Mobility Initiative, before the beginning of the mobility project will have to:

- Carry out a brief study on the Italian teachers training sector and prepare a list of questions and topics of discussion that will be proposed to the representatives of each public and private institution they will meet with, during the Mobility Initiative. The questions and topics of discussions will be shared with the hosting institutions and will then be proposed to each of the institutions visited so to foster the effectiveness of the meetings.
- Carry out a brief presentation of own country teachers training initiatives to be presented to each of the institutions visited in order to enhance the sharing of mutual challenges and of best practices.

EVALUATION AND FINAL CERTIFICATION

Each participant in the Mobility Initiative, at the end of the mobility period, is asked to fill in an evaluation form focusing on all aspects of their mobility experience in Italy. The evaluation forms are collected by Pixel and they are used to create an evaluation Report on the experience. The results of the evaluation are used for the planning of further mobility initiatives that will be based on the strengths of the experiences concluded and will overcome the weaknesses.

Each participant involved in the Mobility Initiative receive a the Europass Mobility document to record the competences and experiences acquired during the initiative itself. The document is produced in cooperation between Pixel and the promoting institution. Also, every participant receives a Certificate of Participation in the mobility initiative that provides all the relevant information on the activities carried out during the mobility initiative.

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Certificazione di Qualità in
in conformità alla norma
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Ministero dell'Università e Ricerca

Accreditamento presso il
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con Decreto del 25/07/2006

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Ministry of Education with the
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THE HOST ORGANIZATION

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The Mobility Initiative 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 Mobility Initiatives, 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

Pixel has developed cooperative agreements and partnerships throughout Europe with institutions operating in the field of teachers training in 30 different European countries.

In Italy, and in Tuscany in particular, Pixel cooperates with several organizations organizing and delivering teachers training initiatives both for in-service and future teachers. Pixel has also close cooperations 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 teachers training, and has participated in several European projects in the field, mostly Comenius multilateral projects funded by the Lifelong Learning Programme. The projects in which Pixel was and is involved focus on: in-service teachers training on new technologies for education, art education, science education, language education, prevention of early school leaving, prevention of school bullying 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.

STAFF EXPERIENCE AND EXPERTISE

The Mobility Initiative, at Pixel, is organized by:

- Dr. Elisabetta Delle Donne has 18 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 10 years of 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

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THE MOBILITY INITIATIVE PROGRAMME

Day	Time Table	Contents
DAY 1 Monday	Morning 9:00 – 13:30 Training in Pixel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of participants • Presentation of the Mobility Initiative programme and of practical issues • The Italian teachers training sector • National and European projects and initiatives for initial and in-service teachers training
	Afternoon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural visit of Florence
DAY 2 Tuesday	Morning 9:00 – 13:00 Mobility Initiative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobility Initiative at the Regional Government for Education (Ufficio Scolastico Regionale) in charge of public initiatives of in-service teachers training.
	Afternoon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free Time for visiting Florence and the surroundings
DAY 3 Wednesday	Morning 10:00 – 12:00 Mobility Initiative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobility Initiative at Cipat. A Regional Consortium of Public Vocational Education Schools representing over 40 public vocational education schools. The Consortium organize in-service training initiatives. 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.
	Afternoon 15:00 – 17:00 Mobility Initiative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobility Initiative at University of Florence, Faculty of Education. The faculty is in charge of initial teachers' training. It will be possible to meet with the staff.
DAY 4 Thursday	Morning 10:00 – 12:00 Mobility Initiative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobility Initiative at Public School "ISIS Da Vinci" of Florence. It will be possible to meet the school director and teachers so as to learn about their strategies and practices for internal in-service teachers training.
	Afternoon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobility Initiative at Centro Machiavelli, a Training Agency accredited by the Tuscany Region. It will be possible to meet the staff in charge of in-service teachers training and learn about their strategies, it will also be possible to meet the staff to learn about their experience.
DAY 5 Friday	Morning 9:00 – 13:30 Training in Pixel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • European policies in the field of in-service teachers training • The European programmes funding vocational education and training initiatives • Information sources on EU fundings • Finding and analyzing the information
	Afternoon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free Time for visiting Florence and the surroundings

GENERAL INFORMATION

Target Group	Experts, Managers, Professionals, Teachers and Trainers working in Vocational Education and Training Institutions
Languages	The Mobility Initiative will be held in English
Location	Florence (Italy)
Total Duration	1 week
Fees	<p>Option 1: € 1.200 per person. The fee includes an all inclusive package: Organizational costs: Implementation of the program locally: liaison with local bodies, preparation of the visits, tutoring during the visits, language assistance, monitoring and supervision etc. Accommodation for 6 nights (arrival on Sunday and departure on Saturday) in single rooms with private bathrooms Breakfasts, lunches, dinners.</p> <p>Option 2: € 1.050 per person. The fee includes an all inclusive package: Organizational costs: Implementation of the program locally: liaison with local bodies, preparation of the visits, tutoring during the visits, language assistance, monitoring and supervision etc. Accommodation for 6 nights (arrival on Sunday and departure on Saturday) in shared double rooms (for 2 people) with private bathrooms Breakfasts, lunches, dinners.</p> <p>Option 3: € 900 per person. The fee includes an all inclusive package: Organizational costs: Implementation of the program locally: liaison with local bodies, preparation of the visits, tutoring during the visits, language assistance, monitoring and supervision etc. Accommodation for 6 nights (arrival on Sunday and departure on Saturday) in shared rooms for 4 people with private bathrooms Breakfasts, lunches, dinners.</p> <p>Option 4: € 800 per person. The fee includes an all inclusive package: Organizational costs: Implementation of the program locally: liaison with local bodies, preparation of the visits, tutoring during the visits, language assistance, monitoring and supervision etc. Accommodation for 6 nights (arrival on Sunday and departure on Saturday) in shared rooms for 4 people with private bathrooms Breakfasts, lunches</p> <p><i>The fees are related to groups of minimum 12 participants. For smaller groups the price could be higher.</i></p>



FURTHER INFORMATION

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