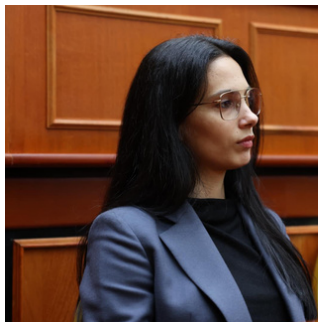


# INNOVET ALBANIA NEWSLETTER

Let's contribute to a stronger Education and Vocational Training community!



Dear Readers,

It is a pleasure for me to open the 10th newsletter, and above all it is a pleasure to say a few words about the green transition. I am Françeska Korançe, for years now part of civil society in the field of research, advocacy and projects in the environment, climate change and sustainable development, and during the last year also a scientific researcher and lecturer at Polis University in the environment department.

My introduction with the green transition is very early, since 2011, during a training at the European Parliament, in which I was introduced to the European Green Deal, precisely in its genesis near the European Greens party. The European Green Deal is already part of the European policy package, and has begun its implementation with a series of legal packages. With the signing of the agreement in Sofia in 2020, the Green Deal, an initiative also taken by the Western Balkans, consequently also an obligation for Albania to advance in this direction.

Together with the Albanian Skills team, we were able to have very fruitful cooperation during the Week of Skills. A very informative event on what the green transition is and what it represents, as well as the challenges that often surround it. It was very interesting as well as positive the fact that the invitation to carry out an activity related to the green transition came precisely from Albanian Skills, and not being an environmental organization as can be imagined when we talk about such fields and topics.

Dear reader, the green transition captures essentially every aspect of our lives. The problems of the era we are living in are becoming more and more evident. While until yesterday the notion of climate change seemed something distant and intangible, today it becomes clear that such problems are actually endangering everything, starting from food, from human health directly (with the spread of diseases or even due to very high temperatures), from water and its lack, etc.

What unites all these problems with each other is the solution: the green transition. The green transition means that we re-conceptualize the way we produce energy, how we produce goods and how we consume, the economy and its value chain, industry, transport, pollution, agricultural production, treatment of water resources, etc. The green transition means urgently addressing climate change and environmental degradation, which are already an existential threat. The green transition is no longer a choice, but is already the only solution. As such, it requires a new generation, equipped with green skills that can meet the future challenges in the aforementioned aspects, and this in my opinion remains the most difficult challenge of all, as it requires a radical awareness of this generation to understand the importance first of this era's need for such professionals, apart from the fact that it requires people with very good analytical skills, and "problem solvers" more than anything else.

Enjoyable reading ahead!

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## UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

## VISIT OF AMERICAN AMBASSADOR JURI KIM DURING AN ACTIVITY OF THE OFFICE FOR INFORMATION AND CAREER COUNSELING - MUNICIPALITY OF KUKËS

Empowering young people and their skills for a professional career and empowering the community through personal and professional networking was the theme of the activity on Tuesday, April 13, 4:00-5:00 p.m. near the Kukës City Hall.

This was the first workshop of the 'Spring Youth Career Meeting' that was held on April 15-17 within the project "A visit away from your future career" funded by the Public Relations Office of the US Embassy- in Tirana and implemented by Albanian Skills in cooperation with the Municipality of Kukës, Dibër and Mat.

Participants in this meeting were: Ambassador of the United States of America Yuri Kim, Deputy Head of Public Relations Amanda Roberson and the deputy mayor of Kukes Municipality Mrs. Majlinda Onuzi. and employees of Kuka Municipality; The local coordinator Mrs. Vera Istrefi; Ms. Ana Zacharian - President of the Association and Executive Director of Albanian Skills and the staff of the organization; young men and women participating in the Career Academy and other project activities.



The workshop began with a presentation of the project, the steps that have been taken so far and the way the office in the Municipality of Kukës operates, the activities that remain to be carried out, the challenges that have been encountered, etc.

Then it continued with discussion, reflection and giving opinions by the participants, mainly between Mrs. Ambassador and young people in the area. In her speech, the ambassador expressed the pleasure of being present, motivated and congratulated the young people and the staff for the opening of the office and the activities they have carried out, encouraging them for their activism in response to the challenges and problems faced by the community where they live. Also, the young people expressed their opinions about the activities carried out, how effective and helpful they are and what they would like to see done further.

Ms. Entela Gjyla - Scientific Researcher at the Albanian Skills organization created a networking game "Business Card" to promote communication and interaction between young participants. Through this game, it was possible to see the benefits of networking, small strategies, providing information, through which young people can create a network that serves them in the future.

The workshop was closed with the speech of Mrs. Ana Zacharian who thanked all the participants for their presence and motivated the young people to participate in as many such activities as possible and the further continuity of the Career Office.





## YOUTH SPRING EXCHANGE ON THE CAREER, APRIL 15-17.2022 MUNICIPALITIES OF MAT, KUKËS, DIBËR

In the framework of the project 'A visit away from your future career', as well as to realize its conclusion, the "Spring meeting on the career of young people" was held. The project was financed by the Democracy Program of the US State Department and is being implemented by Albanian Skills in close cooperation with three municipalities, Mat, Dibër and Kukës during the period July 2021-April 2022. The purpose of this project was to empower young people, girls and boys, with the necessary skills for the labour market, promoting self-employment, entrepreneurship and business awareness for youth employment. In order to provide the above services in each municipality, "Offices for Information and Career Counselling" have been opened, which are administered by the respective municipalities.

To participate in this activity, 136 young people were invited to apply, and 74 applications were received from the three areas of Mat, Kukës, Dibër, where 40 young people were selected who were active participants during the implementation of the project, career academy, mentoring sessions, as well as the activities developed by him. The selected young people made a joint three-day trip starting from Kukës, stopping in Burrel, in Peshkopi and ending in Kukës.

The purpose of this trip was to carry out a youth exchange between the young people of the three municipalities, socializing between them, sharing their experiences, drafting calendars of career services for each municipality as well as discussing initiatives to strengthen communication and their networking with a focus on the career of young people.



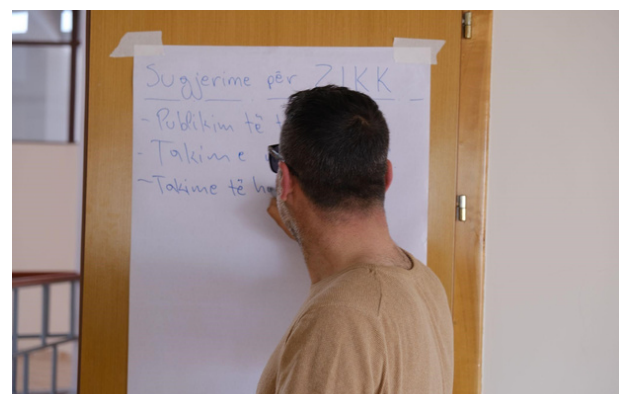
The exchange started on April 15, where the young people of Kukës Municipality met together with the staff of Albanian Skills and travelled to Burrel. In the hall of the Mat City Council, they were welcomed by the young people of Mat, ZIKK Mat and the vice-mayor of the Mat Municipality, where they realized:

- Visit to the "Career Information and Counselling Office" Welcome greeting from the Deputy Mayor of the Mat municipality Mr. Myslym Zeneli,
- Presentation of the Video - promoting the Ecotourism Values of Mat by young people.
- Discussion among young people about studying at a vocational school or university.
- Visit to the Mat Historical Museum, where the guests will learn about the history of Mat

After the end of the meeting in the city of Burrel, together with all the information taken with them and the kindness of the residents and young people of this Municipality, the departure for the city of Peshkopia was realized. After arriving in the city, all participants were accommodated in the hotel. The young people were welcomed by the team of ZIKK Dibër and the young people from Dibër who had dinner together. Afterwards, exercise sessions were held with young people who got to know each other and exchanged various information through group exercises.



The second day, April 16, started full of energy and enthusiasm from all the young people and the organizing staff. First, it started with the recognition of the "Career Information and Counselling Office" and the welcome extended by the team of ZIKK Diber and Mr. Rruzhdin Deda, the Deputy Mayor of Diber Municipality, who expressed his gratitude for the project and underlined the importance of these youth exchanges. After this meeting, the young people visited the Dibër historical museum where they learned about the history of this city.





Then the participants left for the city of Kukës. After settling in at the hotel, the third exercise session with the young people began. All those present were introduced to the "New Kukës" documentary film and developed a discussion and reflection on the activities carried out and concrete ideas for the continuity of the networking of the young people of these three municipalities.

The participants were divided into 6 groups, 5 groups consisting of young people, and worked in groups on proposals and ideas on how to maintain and strengthen active networking between them and the Career Counselling Office. While the sixth group composed of local coordinators of the three municipalities and the staff of the ZIKK discussed and reflected on some concrete activities to improve and keep the Career Counselling Office active.

Then a visit to the Kukës Ethnographic Museum and a walk along the Old Tourism with wonderful panoramic views of Gjallica Mount and Fierza Lake round off the day's activities, leaving the young people to dine together, dance and sing. Sunday morning, 10:00 all the young people left for their cities taking with them the best impressions from this trip which will be remembered for a long time.



This exchange carried out as the conclusion of the project made it possible for young people to get to know more about the cultures, traditions and history of each of the cities. Participants connected more with each other, collaborated and learned more; they exercised through exercise sessions but also had endless fun. Such activities are an experience itself, the taste and impressions left by the young people of the three participating municipalities were fantastic, which will remain long in the memory of each of the participants and could not be successfully realized without the support of the permanent staff of Mat, Dibër and Kukës Municipalities and local coordinators of the project.



## "INTERNATIONAL DAY OF GIRLS IN ICT"

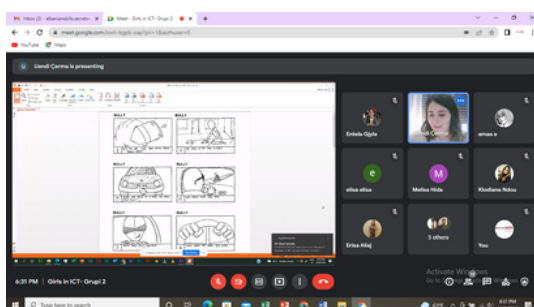
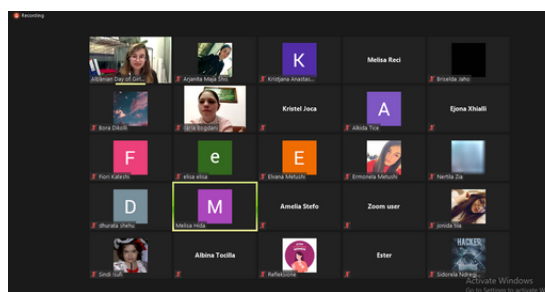
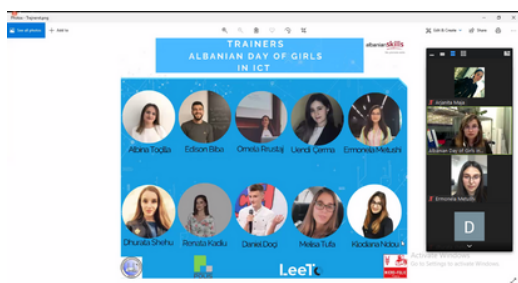
In the framework of the International Day of Girls in ICT, Albanian Skills joined the worldwide activities and events, which since 2011, have involved 377,000 girls, in more than 11,400 international activities in 171 countries of the world. In this 10-year journey of this day, let's all contribute together to bring the spirit of this initiative to our country and add Albania to the global map of countries that strongly support girls in ICT! Just like the nature of the objectives of this global movement, girls in Albania will be the protagonists of this day. In a general overview, the activities that we intend to develop in Albania, target girls in all Secondary Schools in Albania, extending the objectives in two main directions:

- Supporting girls in Secondary Schools of general education to get to know and work more closely with creative digital tools and programs, fostering their wishes and interests to consider a future career in this profile.
- Expanding and strengthening the digital skills and competences of girls in Vocational Education Schools, through a unique opportunity to implement their creative and innovative ideas for the future.

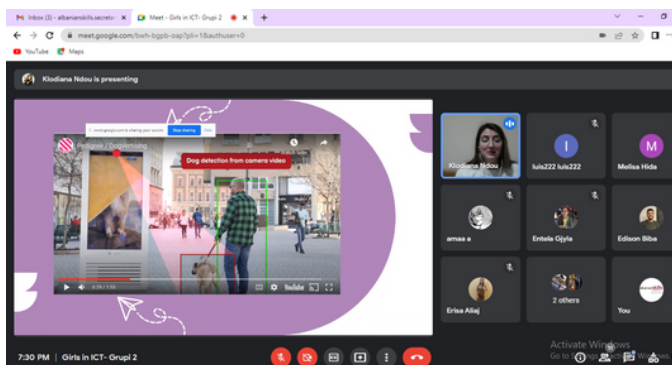
This year in the "Albanian Girls in ICT" event, over 130 girls who had knowledge about technology, but also girls who had no knowledge about technology, applied. During April 18-20, informative and training sessions were held by experts in the field of ICT in our country, where the girls received information and got to know in a practical, concrete way with aspects of technology. The experts proposed different topics where the girls selected one or more of those that they worked on 21st April.

The sessions were quite interesting, valuable and an impetus for all girls who are part of this field but not only to make technology part of their studies and experience. The participating experts who carried out the informative sessions and evaluated the work of the girls were:

1. Klodiana Ndou- Expert Digital Advertiser
2. Renata Kadiu- Senior Ux/UI Designer
3. Danjel Docci- 3D Artist Co-Funder NesHawk
4. Ermonela Metushi - Web Development Leeto Digital Agency
5. Edison Biba- Co Funder Leeto Digital Agency
6. Wendy Cerma - IT & Multimedia Expert and Consultant, Aleksander Moisiu University
7. Ornela Rrustaj-GDSC Leader for UAMD and Albania, Aleksander Moisiu University
8. Albina Tocila- Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Research and Development; Coordinator of Computer Science Programming, Polis University
9. Dhurata Shehu - Polis University Lecturer Assistant
10. Melisa Tufa - Lecturer Assistant, Polis University







During the afternoon, April 22 in the premises of Micro Folie Tirana, with the physical and virtual participation of the participating girls, presenting their work, this intense but also very beautiful and valuable week was completed for all the girls.

Even this year, the girls showed that they can have a safe and successful professional career in technology, so their motivation and encouragement must continue until they gain the confidence to choose technology as a very good educational and employment opportunity.



# INTERVET WB PROJECT ACTIVITIES

## Job Shadowing of teachers in Netherland

Approved in 2019, the INTERVET WB project will allow 54 teachers or staff/administrative managers from all VET schools of 6 Western Balkan countries (Albania, Kosovo, Montenegro, Serbia, Macedonia of the North and Bosnia) to complete a 7-day internship abroad. The selected teachers traveled to the Netherlands where they had a different experience in the companies there.



After the trip to Netherland, the teachers have been accommodated and started their experience near Da Vinci College. This experience was very valuable for the teachers of vocational schools, as there they saw closely a different environment, other teaching methods, attachment with students, etc. Below you can read some of their testimonies.





Throughout this experience, I benefited a lot, in many ways, starting from the Qualifications Framework, curriculum design, teaching methods and methods, mutual communication, kindness, persistence, patience, professionalism, in solving problems, evaluation method, etc. Elements of teaching didactics in VET institutions implemented by our teachers, I noticed similar, in the lessons I assisted. Of course there are elements of the vocational education infrastructure at Da Vinci College that make the difference, such as: the environments where they take place theoretical and practical classes, diverse digital material base, small number of students in classes, recreational environments, way of attending classes, high number of students with special needs (special needs), attending this education, inclusion and development of professional internships near the business at the age of 16, the development of the internship, all this step by step. The interesting role of ambassadors of schools, who represented college students, who were involved in organizing events, information, following up on problems among themselves. I noticed that the use of quizzes in the lesson, the use of the Internet to search for information, the development of students' creativity, by doing it themselves, brought higher interest, as well as ensured quality in teaching and assessment. Although I use these methods, I think I should use them more frequently, to increase competition, creative spirit, cooperation, and the use of digital devices. Of course, this experience has greatly influenced my teaching, articulation, attitude and communication. We are more smiling, more relaxed, more enthusiastic with our students, often repeating to them that this is how it was developed in the Netherlands.



**Klodiana Memelli Shkolla "Salih Ceka**



**Vojsava Deliaj, Shkolla e Mesme Profesionale "Ali Myftiu"**

I have benefited a lot both personally and professionally in terms of teaching. The first thing that impressed me was the greeting of people everywhere on the street and why they did not know me personally. It was a very nice thing that I felt comfortable and why in a foreign country. Da Vinci College was a campus designed and built according to the characteristics of Da Vinci's colours. The digitalisation of this school, the freedom and independence of the teacher in organizing the lesson according to the level of the number of students and the students' own responsibility for the lesson or working with special students with problems in reaching the basic level of learning are the things that I would separate from this Job Shadowing. At the same time the scenery, the cleanliness and the Dutch culture was noticeable everywhere you went, it was simply amazing."

1- This experience was fruitful, necessary and achieved for the purpose it carried in itself.

2-In this experience, we benefited a lot, starting from the ways of managing lessons, communication, evaluation, group cooperation, freedom of work, calmness and relaxation that everyone transmitted.

3-The thing that impressed me the most about Da Vinci College was finding ways to learn and work for children in need (special needs).

4-We gained a lot of new knowledge from the way of evaluation, realization of classes, quizzes, giving a project, dividing the years into levels, etc. I think that with the help of the school, I can certainly do such a lesson with my students.

5-This experience definitely influenced my teaching in the future, but with little patience and time, especially for soft skills.



**Dorina Nikaj Shkolla Tregtare Industriale; Qendra e Formimit Profesional Publik Vlorë**





"I have definitely suggested this experience to my colleagues, because we must have the model of a college-winning school, the best in Europe, and align with the results and model of colleges like Da Vinci in all directions that a school of professional education.





## WB INTERVIEW STUDENT MOBILITY

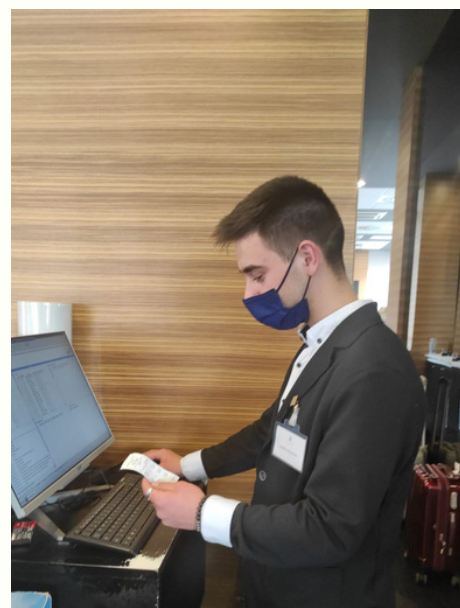
### Student mobility in one-month and three months practice

Approved in 2019, the INTERVET WB project will allow 360 students from all VET schools of 6 Western Balkan countries (Albania, Kosovo, Montenegro, Serbia, North Macedonia and Bosnia) to complete a 1-month internship abroad and 56 students with three months of practice.

After the trip to Spain and Italy, they were placed in the respective companies where they followed the internship for a month. Part of this practice where the students of the VET in the field of IT, Tourism, Gastronomy, Electronics, Construction and Administration. These internships were very successful for the students, receiving very positive evaluations and feedback from the companies where they worked. Below you can read some of the testimonies of the students who participated in the mobility.

In my three-month internship in Italy, I worked as a receptionist in a hotel called "Hotel degli Arcimboldi". The work I performed lasted 6 hours and 30 minutes, 5 days a week, of which 30 minutes were dedicated to the lunch break, with different shifts. On the first day, the hotel management familiarized us with the ethics and rules of the hotel, which we had to follow in the workplace. The second day I started practice normally. During the first weeks I was attentive and took notes about the work process. The colleagues there explained the work process in detail and gave me easy tasks to complete. The actions and registrations that took place in the hotel were reflected in the "Protel" hotel program. The program was in Italian so I found it a bit difficult at first. After about 3 weeks I was able to memorize the work processes and how the program worked, which impressed my colleagues, who then began to allow me to work independently. During my time there, I noticed that there was always a new case of registration and work process, but during these months I carried out various activities at the hotel, which included:

1. Registration of customer documents in the system
2. Registration of business information.
3. Registration of the status of the rooms.
4. Control of reservations.
5. Systematization and organization of documentation, etc



**Mario Dhimitri Shkolla**  
Teknike Ekonomike, Tirane

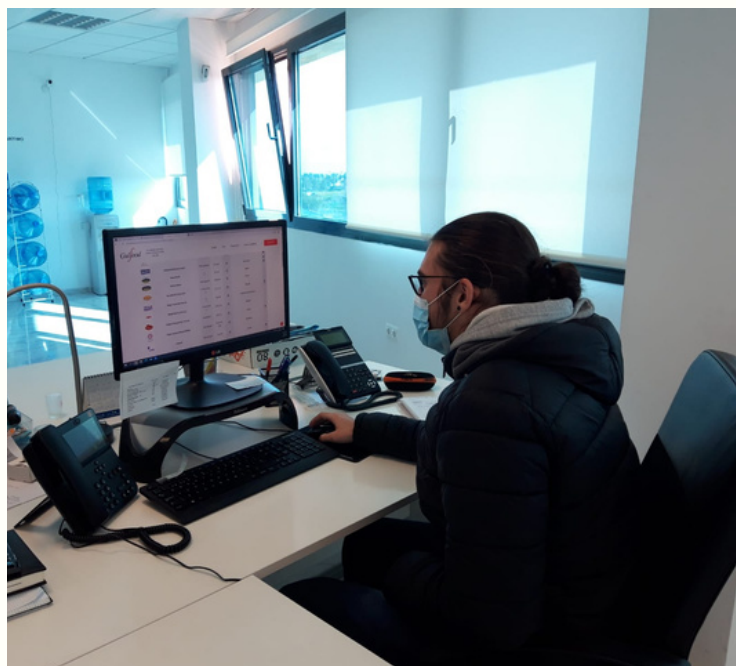


**Anjeza Rama Shkolla Salih**  
Ceka, Elbasan

The opinions and impressions of the parents of the students are quite important in relation to the experience that the students in Mobility have had. Fabio Meko was one of the students who was a participant in one of the Mobilities realized and his father, during a communication with him, expressed his opinion regarding the experience his son had.



Hello, I am the father of Fabio, one of the students who participated in the internship abroad. Fabio's experience for us as parents was a new but very beautiful experience as it served Fabio not only from the teaching side of the profession he has chosen but also how to adapt to a work environment, in an unfamiliar foreign country with how to settle in there and feel part of that place for as long as he stayed there. We were also convinced that Fabio is a guy with his feet on the ground and able to move forward and face all the challenges that life will bring. Thank you for this wonderful experience that our son had the opportunity to have.



**Fabio Meko Shkolla Teknike  
Ekonomike, Tirane**



## TRAINING SESSIONS

INTERVET Western Balkans is a 3-year pilot project for the internationalization of education and vocational training systems in the Western Balkans, which aims to create opportunities for learning mobility in Western Balkans vocational education institutions and improve the culture of mobility for learning in the field of VET.

In the framework of INTERVET WB, Uniser, coordinator of the Intervet WB project and the partner of the Albanian Skills project in cooperation with the National Employment and Skills Agency (AKPA) on April 26 at 10:30-13:00 held for the members of the units of development and leaders of vocational education institutions in Albania as well as representatives of AKPA in Tirana, the training on the topic "Mobility for learning through INTERVET WB and Erasmus+ 2021-2027" in a mixed format near the premises of the Electrical Technical School 'Gjergj Canco' , Tirana and online through the Zoom platform.



The purpose of this training was to get to know the process of "mobility" of students and teachers, the procedures and processes used by INTERVET (during mobilities) as well as the opportunities that exist to plan and organize the mobility of learning by the institutions of education and professional training within the Erasmus+ Program 2021-2027 but also within the various mechanisms offered by the European Union.

The representative from Uniser and coordinator of Intervet for Albania, Gulia Quaglietti presented concretely:

Presentation with the Intervet project and its objectives

Results so far

Application process (open discussion with participants)

The selection process

Pre-departure training - How to prepare a student for a mobility experience

Organization of learning during mobility

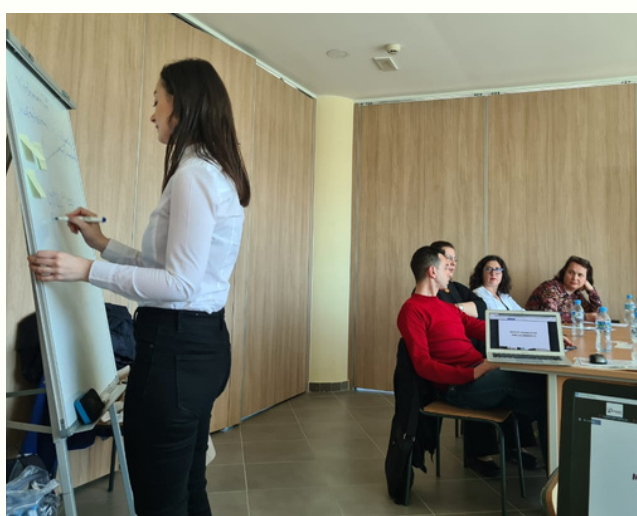
Recognition and Evaluation

Familiarity with Erasmus+ programs + The importance of Erasmus+ programs for VET institutions, students and their teams



To be noted is the high interest shown by the participants regarding the capacity building of the VET institutions for their involvement in the INTERVET WB project and Erasmus+ calls, as well as the experiences and evaluations that were shared by the teachers participating in the Shadow Work / Job Shadowing but also of their students participating in professional practices abroad within INTERVET WB. They expressed that their experiences remain quite valuable, and as one of the teachers expressed, considering it as "a life experience". The mobility in one of the host countries has been worth a lot since through it they managed to see a different reality, to reflect on their work but also to enrich themselves with different teaching methods which they are also applying in their schools.

INTERVET WB will continue the work and commit to increase the capacities of the VET systems related to the mobility of students, teachers and leaders of educational institutions as a valuable contribution to the internationalization processes of the VET systems of the Western Balkans.





## EUROPE WEEK IN ALBANIA

Every year in our country "Europe Week" is held by the Delegation of the European Union in Albania... this year the week focuses on the values of the European Union. European values were confirmed once again: respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, rule of law, respect for human rights, non-discrimination, solidarity and equality between women and men. The values of our country, the traditions of the cities, hospitality, culture, tourism and opportunities for the future were also highlighted.



The start of the activities on May 3, 2022, from the beautiful city of Shkodra marked very large participation. Then, the week's activities were moved near the Lungomare in the city of Vlora on May 5 to end on May 9 in the city of Tirana near the city's pedestrian walkway.

Various organizations and projects, artisans, embassies, universities, etc. participated, and during all the days of activities disclosed to the guests and citizens various information and knowledge about the programs and projects financed by the European Union in Albania, etc.

The INTERVET WB project was presented in a special stand as well as all the programs and projects financed by the European Union in Albania.

During this week's presentations, citizens, parents and students of vocational education institutions were interested in getting to know the INTERVET WB project, its activities, as well as different stories from the life and work of different students who have already completed their mobility for learning in different EU countries as well as with the new mobility calls for learning that will occur during the implementation period of this project.

There was also entertainment, screenings of films, documentaries and music, bringing enthusiasm to the participants.



## ALBANIAN SKILLS WEEK

### Activities throughout the week

“Skills Week” in Albania was initiated by Albanian Skills - National Association for Skills Competitions in 2018, inspired by the European Week of Professional Skills launched by the European Commission. Since then, the Albanian Skills Week is organized every year including the two years of the pandemic and this year the 5th edition will be held in the same week as the European Professional Skills Week 2022 and with the same slogan #Skills4GreenTransition; **“Take the bag with you”**

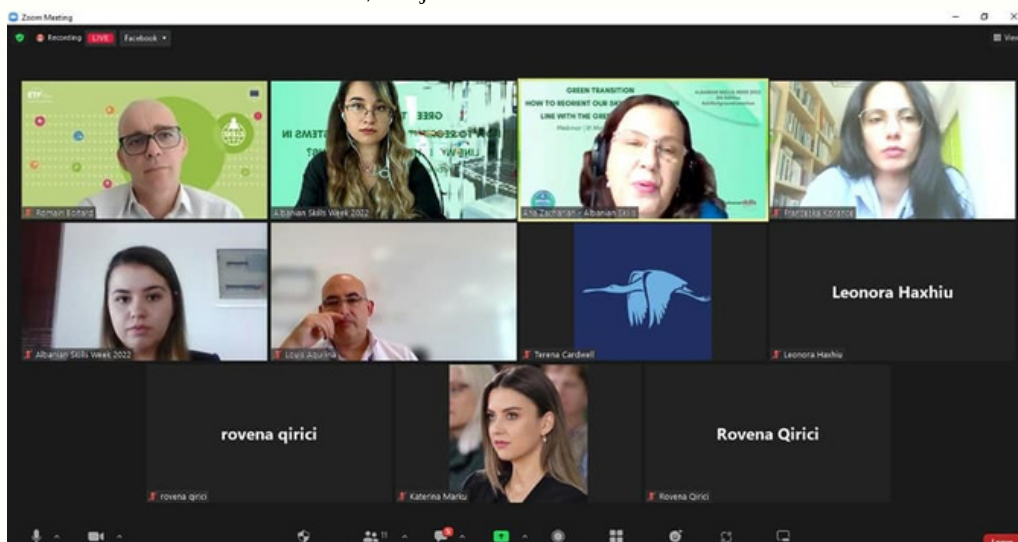


As shown by the last four years, the hundred events that have been held during the dedicated skills weeks, weeks packed with activities, workshops, trainings, open day events, skills competitions etc., have had a huge impact on promoting skills for all, children, young people and unemployed, institutions, projects, organizations whose focus was passion for professions and skills in various trades, skills for life, skills for the future, skills for resilient life, decent and fair work, etc. The Week of Skills 2022 in Albania initiated as a wide journey of discussion and reflection with children and young people about the green agreement for sustainable development, education for skills and career.

During the green transition as the most powerful sector to address the environmental challenges facing the planet, to support the objectives of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the green transition as well as the European Union Green Deal initiative. All this through forums for children and seminars in the laboratories of Microfolie Tirana, University of Durrës and Polis University. The key word of this week will be, save the earth, take care of air and water pollution, waste and food sector, fashion and energy, etc.

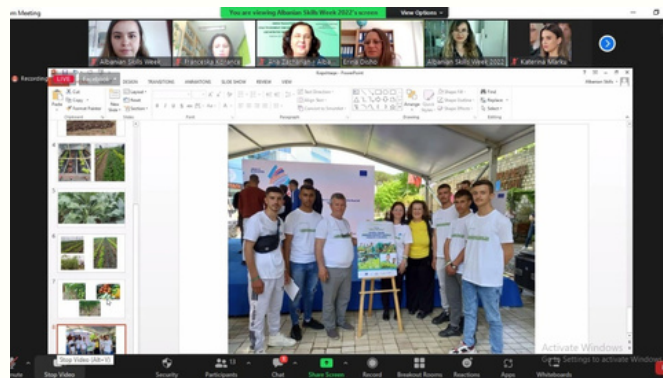
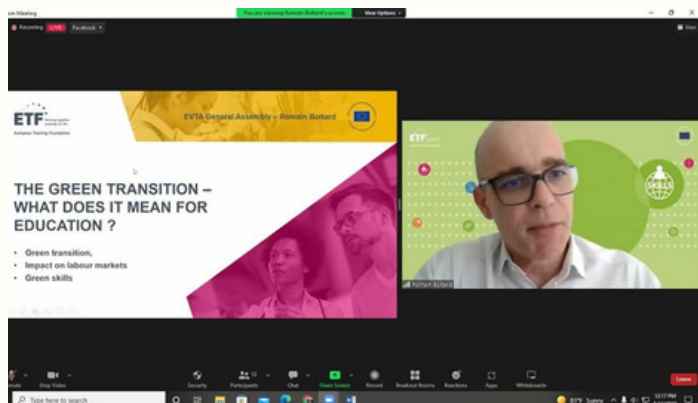
The week started with a webinar on: **The green transition and how to reorient our skills systems in line with green ambitions?** European and Albanian environmental and sustainable development experts, as well as education practitioners, participated during this webinar, namely:

- God. Romain Boitard, ETF - European Training Foundation Human Capital Development Expert - Country Liaison for Morocco and Albania
- Mrs. Franceska Korance, Researcher and Teacher of Environment and Urbanism at Polis University
- Mrs. Katerina Marku, City Council of Tirana, Founder of the platform "Environmental Council of Tirana", - Mr. Louis Aquilina, Director of MCAST, Erasmus+ Projects and Mobility Office
- Mrs. Ana Mino, Mihal Shahini School" AAP School, Project Coordinator





The experts shared their views on Greening Sustainability and the SDGs at AFP, how the green transition will affect the labour markets inside and outside the EU, and even discussed the Albanian case, showing the energy transition, how to shape the next generation with green and digital skills, as an important paradigm for our ambition of a green future and the sharing of good practices of vocational schools in the greening of VET in Albania.



### Food Safety

It then continued with the Food Safety activity which was carried out in cooperation with the National Food Authority; Food Safety Project near the Peza Conference school premises. With the participation of Yllka Allara - Representative of the National Food Authority of Tirana; Valbona Lasku; Bakery- Food Safety Communicator; teacher of the Conference of Peza school. During this activity, the students discussed about healthy food, food waste, green transition, the care we should show when consuming and buying a product, reading labels, the skills required for work and career during the green transition. Specialists of the National Food Authority and AlbanianSkills presented information, concrete cases, innovations related to this field. The activity also certified the students participating in the training cycle on food safety as "Ambassadors of Food Safety" from the National Food Authority.



## Education for the green transition, jobs and careers-UADM

The next activity was with the students of the 9-year-old "Vincenc Prendushi" Durrës school, who visited the "Virtual Laboratory" near the Aleksandër Moisiu Durrës University. The participants during this activity were: Wendy Cerma - Multimedia Expert and Consultant; Marsida Ibro - Assistant Lecturer at the University; Teacher of Vincens Prendushi School.

During this very pleasant and welcoming visit, the students discussed and expressed their opinions about the challenges and triggers that our planet is facing during different sessions and through VR technology. Students worked in small groups to brainstorm ideas about creating an app to reduce pollution, damage to oceans, air, fertile and valuable land.



They experienced a new, different experience with the VR glasses which, as the students themselves expressed, put them in a different, more tangible reality. Seeing the pollution, the destruction of our planet through the glasses made us reflect more and become more aware in the following days.



Beyond traditional education is the motto that we welcomed a group of students to the most innovative laboratory at "Aleksandër Moisiu" University in Durrës. Vtech and Innovation Hub through the virtual experience makes you involved in a 360-degree environment, where you can learn and be aware at the same time. The focus was on environmental pollution and in an innovation laboratory, students designed and presented ideas for applications in virtual reality that would serve to raise awareness among their peers and not only. Uendy Cerma - Aleksander Moisiu University



"ETF network for centers of excellence - SISI: the distribution of innovation in social inclusion - School of Hospitality and Tourism in Tirana" was the next activity organized by ETF, on May 18 in the premises of Tirana International Hotel. Albanian counterparts, ETF and ENAIP organized the third online visit, after the first one organized by AMAL centers in Tel Aviv and the second one organized by Tink Technology and Humanity College in Turkey. This meeting was an opportunity to follow online by CoVE of other partners of the SISI partnership and the Albanian VET schools.



#### Participants, experts in this activity were:

Daniela Dal Zotto, international project manager, ENAIP NET

José Manuel Galvin Arribas, Coordinator for the Professional Excellence Project, ETF

Lida Kita, Senior Expert for Human Capital Development - Social Inclusion - Country Liaison for Israel, Serbia and Turkey, ETF

Ejvis Gishti (Shehi), General Director of the National Agency for Education, Vocational Training and Qualifications Ministry of Finance and Economy

Flutura Vaqarri, Director of the School of Hospitality and Tourism of CoVE of Tirana

Maddalena Comincini, OeaD, Regional Cooperation Office Albania, Kosovo, North Macedonia

Gid Shaqiri, GM at Hotel M.K

Juna Beqiri, human resources manager at Hotel Maritim Piazza

Eni Xheko, GM at Hotel Xheko Imperial

Arta Sino, Prestige Resort Administrator

Denisa Meco, Head of the Department of Foreign Languages,

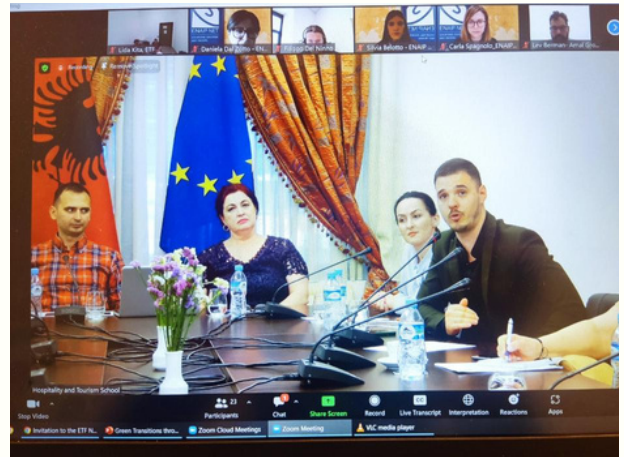
Donald Vogli, VET teacher, former student

Besim Xhaja, Head of the Quality Assurance Department

Elmira Qerimaj, food and beverage teacher

Voltisa Zerellari, student

Filippo Del Ninno, Human Capital Development Expert - Country Liaison for Moldova, ETF



During this virtual visit of the participants, it was an excellent opportunity to closely observe the reality and the work of the School of Hospitality and Tourism CoVE of Tirana through a general overview of the School made by the leaders of the school and followed by the presentation of a selection of good practices in the field of business partnership from various presentations made by teachers, students, businesses involved in practical learning and former students. The second part was a virtual tour of the School of Hospitality and Tourism CoVE Center of Tirana and excellent testimonials from students and former students already actively involved in the teaching process.

An interesting discussion between local participants in the hall and ENE members from other countries reinforced the importance of best practices shared between COVE and how important it is to promote VET excellence to increase excellence in all VET systems.



## Education for the green transition, jobs and careers-Polis University

Polis University welcomed the students of the secondary school "Ernest Koliqi" in Tirana. Trainers in this activity were: Eralda Ribaj - Marketing and Admissions Office, Samela Kruja - Lecturer at the Department of Environment, at Polis University. Edi Duro - Laboratory worker at Polis University.

The students were introduced to the green transition, discussed the causes of planet pollution, and visited the energy efficiency and environmental analysis laboratories where they learned many new and interesting things in a practical and concrete way, the lecturers and specialists of the University Polis.

It was a useful experience that will be remembered, as the information they received will be of great value to the children in further understanding the green transition, its impact on their lives and the jobs they will do in the future.





## ITE-DAYS AT EXPOCITY ALBANIA

The days of the International Tourism and Environment Fair that took place from June 2-4, 2022 on the premises of EXPOCITY Albania, also opened the doors for various activities and presentations of students from all over Albania.

A stand dedicated to the participation of pupils and students of the tourism and technology branches, remained open for three consecutive days thanks to the support provided by EXPOCITY Albania, where the various public, companies and tourist operators from the entire region were informed about young professionals in the field of tourism and the environment that are prepared in various professional schools and universities. On June 3, 2022, was held the **"Students Create, Tourists Enjoy"** competition.



- 12 teams out of 13 registered, with participants, took part in this competition from schools and universities in the country. Groups participating in the competition were:

- 3 teams from "Herman Gmeiner" Vocational High School, Tirana
- ATT(Albania Tech Tour );
- Quad4
- Deux

1 Team from the Information and Communication Technology Vocational High School

- • TIK Korce

1 Team from "Gjergj Canco" Electrical Technical School, Tirana

- Strike

1 Team from Vocational High School "Isuf Gjata" Korce

- Korca trip

1 Team from "Hysen Cela" Technological High School, Durrës

- Eunoia

1 Team from Tirana Hospitality-Tourism Vocational High School

- New Way

1 Team from Vocational High School "Salih Ceka" Elbasan

- New Generation

1 Team from the University: "Fan.S.Noli", Korça

1 Team from Epoka University

- Nomadica

1 Team from Marin Barleti University

- Tourism at Barleti



Participating teams selected one of the following two tasks:

**Task 1:** The best 5-day tourist package in Albania (An approximate cost is estimable).

The best solution for the challenges tourism is facing today in Albania (A rough cost is appreciated).



Students worked throughout the day for hours, where they expanded their ideas about sustainable tourism as a tourism concept, Tourism and Environment, Challenges of tourism in Albania, etc.

Many creative, innovative, practical ideas were demonstrated by the competitors, such as:

- Creation of a hiking application; camping in Albania by means of a map for setting up tents.
- Creation of a tourist guide for the region of Korça.
- Creation of a strategy for the development of sustainable tourism.
- National tourist packages for Albania and specific for the Korça region.
- Creation of a website for booking hotels.
- Creation of an application, a platform to introduce tourists to Tirana and all of Albania.
- Designing a tourist package for the region of Korça and a virtual tour through VR glasses.
- 5-day tourist guide via QR Code for different cities.
- One-day tour packages for previously unexplored destinations.
- Tourist package for Central Albania.
- Tourist package for South Albania.



During the work, the students were mentored and received very valuable advice from experts in the fields of Technology and Tourism:

1. Ermiona Brahल्ली, University "Fan Noli" Korce, doctor of sciences profiled in geodiversity, geoheritage and geotourism studies
2. Ermira Jashiku, University "Fan Noli" Korce, doctor of sciences profiled in geography
3. Marjana Murrja, Marketing Director, "LogicAI" company,
4. Edison Biba, CoFounder Leeto Digital Agency
5. Zenel Rushi, CoFounder Leeto Digital Agency
6. Labinot Murrja – Founder of Butterfly Camping



Student presentations were evaluated by a qualified panel of judges that are the following:

1. Mrs. Aulona Hoxha- CEO Expocity Albania,
2. Mr. Erind Sula - Zenith Travel Agency
3. Mrs. Marjana Murrja- Marketing & Communications logical director
4. Mr. Edison Biba- Co-Founder Leeto Digital Agency
5. Mr. Zenel Rrushi- Co-Founder Leeto Digital Agency
6. Mr. Labinot Murrja – Founder of Butterfly Camping
7. Mr Silvi Dedja – Vas Tour Agency
8. Mrs. Ana Zacharian - CEO Albanian Skill.

This day filled with positive energy and a lot of enthusiasm and above all a very valuable experience and motivating for all, wishing that it helps the participants in the further pursuit of their ideas and to be a quite a good boost for their career as future professionals in the field. An assessment of the skills of the young participants was evidenced by the participating companies during the mentoring and presentation of tasks.

At the end of this activity, we sincerely thank all the young people for their participation and dignified presentations, their teachers and lecturers for motivating and accompanying them throughout the day but also during the preparations, as well as EXPOCITY Albania and its partners for all the support in the organization of this competition, without whom this experience would not have been possible.

#ITEDays

#Students create tourists enjoy

Prizes for the winners were made possible by:

Albanian Rafting: - Package for ten people rafting in Vjosa

Trip for six people to Mount of Tomorr

Zip Line Albania :-Package for ten people

Butterfly Camping: -Camping for ten people one night including tour guide-accommodation and meals (breakfast+dinner)



## UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

### The fifth call for student mobility - closed

The fifth call for a one-month internship within the INTERVET project has closed. With this call, 20 students will be selected from all vocational schools in Albania who will leave in June 2022 for 1 month in Italy and Spain and 4 students for 3 months in France. Applications are currently being selected and winners will be announced shortly. Before departure, students will take an online English course to improve communication in the host country.



### Job Shadowing Teachers, Malta

The second call has been closed where 3 teachers/staff will be selected from all VET schools in Albania, who will go to Malta in October 2022.



### My experience

Kelvin Zifla is impressed during the implementation of the preparatory English course with the students. The preparation of the students is one of the important links of the project, and in the next newsletter we will get to know the impressions of the professor of the course.



### Technical Economic School Anila Nanaj (Bani)

The director of the Tirana Technical School of Economics shows her experience, the participation of students participating in Mobility, but also the challenges encountered.



### Student mobility

The students participating in the mobilities in Lyon, France and Maribor, Slovenia tell us about their experience. The positive feelings, the beautiful emotions, the challenges that have gone through this experience. But as well as the activities carried out, adaptation to the host companies and to the place where they have lived for about a month.

