

# Breaking down and defining WBL at local level and EU mobility programs

MODULE 5 - Unit 1

**Activity 2 Presenting local WBL and EU mobility programs, with a special eye for SEN students and VR**





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What does WBL stand for?



## WBL = Work-Based Learning

- It is an **educational strategy** that provides students with real-life work experiences where they can apply academic and technical skills and develop their employability.
- **Work-based learning strategies** provide career awareness, career exploration opportunities, career planning activities and help students attain competencies such as positive work attitudes and other employable skills.
- **WBL programs** are targeted to bridge the gap between the learning and the doing.



**Work-based learning *strategies* include:<sup>[1]</sup>**

**Apprenticeship or internship or mentorship**

**Job shadowing**

**Business/industry field trip**

**Entrepreneurial experience**

**Cooperative education**

**School-based enterprise at local or international/EU (mobility) level**

**Service learning (volunteering programs)**

## WBL key persons:

- **Learner:** the learner is central to the WBL process. The learner engages in a WBL program and completes all requirements of the program, maintains high degree of professionalism and acquires necessary competencies for which the WBL program was designed.
- **On-the-job mentor:** a on-the-job mentor sets realistic goals for the student to acquire, engages and supervises them to complete their tasks and is a role model for the student to emulate.
- **(Teacher/Trainer) Coordinator:** a (teacher or trainer) coordinator is a certified educator who manages the WBL program and checks on the student progress and supports whenever required to ensure successful completion of the WBL program.
- **(School) Administrator:** the school administrator is key in introducing WBL programs within the curriculum after identifying the appropriate courses that can be learnt through the program.
- **Parents:** parental support enables successful completion of the WBL program as offer suitable guidance, support and motivation to their wards and approve the WBL program that would be most suitable for meeting their ward's learning needs and career aspirations.



What is a (EU) mobility program?





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## (EU) Mobility programs

- A **mobility program** provides with a certain amount of economic, linguistic, logistic, psychological support to a certain number of people that are willing to spend a predefined period of time (short-, middle-, long-term mobility) in another place, usually another country, to work / volunteer / study / learn / exchange. E.g. Servizio Civile Nazionale all'estero, in Italy.
- EU mobility program = international mobility experience promoted and financed by the European Commission. E.g. Erasmus+ Key Action 1 for VET Learners.





## EXAMPLE: ERASMUS+

Depending on the profile of participants involved, the following types of mobility programmes are supported under Key Action 1 of the Erasmus+ Programme:

In the field of Education and Training:

- Mobility programme for higher education students and staff;
- Mobility programme for VET learners and staff;
- Mobility programme for school pupils and staff;
- Mobility programme for adult education learners and staff.

In the field of Youth:

- Mobility programmes for young people - Youth exchanges
- Mobility programmes for youth workers
- Youth participation activities

WBL + (EU) mobility program = ?



# WBL + (EU) mobility program = **WBL at EU level!**

Either it is a local WBL program or a (EU) mobility program...

Either it is about working, job-shadowing or volunteering...

Either it is a WBL program in another city of your country or in another country...

**... it is about learning by doing!**

**... it is about growing personally and professionally!**

**... it is about finding the program, applying for it, getting in, preparing for it, starting and ending it!**

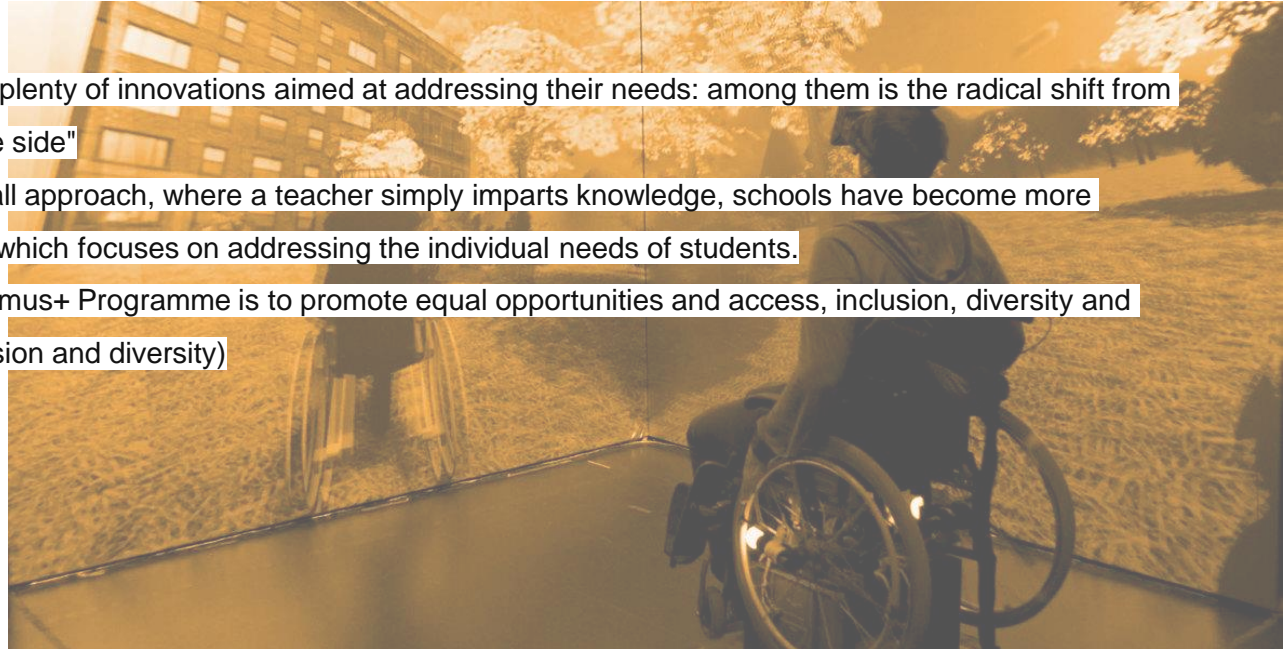
# The stages of a WBL at EU level (mobility programme)

1. **Planning** (including defining the learning outcomes, activity formats, development of work programme, schedule of activities)
1. **Preparation** (including practical arrangements, selection of participants, set up of agreements with partners and participants, linguistic/intercultural/learning- and task-related preparation of participants before departure)
1. **Implementation of the EU mobility activities**
1. **Follow up** (including the evaluation of the activities, the validation and formal recognition - where applicable - of the learning outcomes of participants during the activity, as well as the dissemination and use of the project's outcomes).



## What about the **Special Educational Needs** of <SEN> students (*potentially*) interested into WBL at EU level (mobility programme)?

- Over recent years there have been plenty of innovations aimed at addressing their needs: among them is the radical shift from "sage on the stage" to "guide on the side"
- Rather than having a one-size-fits-all approach, where a teacher simply imparts knowledge, schools have become more focused on differentiated teaching, which focuses on addressing the individual needs of students.
- E.g. one of the priorities of the Erasmus+ Programme is to promote equal opportunities and access, inclusion, diversity and fairness across all its actions (inclusion and diversity)



How could the *needs* of <SEN> students be addressed using **VR**?



# Access to WBL at EU level (mobility program)

## Limits, challenges

*SEN students & VR*

## Triggers, Opportunities

- ...
- ...
- ...
- ...
- ...

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Thank  
you



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