

**Project : LLP Leonardo Transfer of Innovation**

**Project Title:**

**INCOM-VET Development of Intercultural Competence of Students and Trainers in EU VET institutions (No. LLP-LDV-TOI-2013-LT-0145 )**

**Durata: 1<sup>st</sup> October 2013 – 30<sup>th</sup> September 2015**

**Scientific responsible for the Italian local unit: Dott.ssa Maria Giovanna Onorati**

**Network:**

***International coordinator:***

Vilnius Builders Training Centre (VSRC) – Lithuania ([www.vsrc.lt](http://www.vsrc.lt))

***Partners:***

***Universities:***

Lithuanian University of Educational Sciences – Lithuania ([www.leu.lt](http://www.leu.lt))

Panevezys College – Lithuania ([www.panko.lt](http://www.panko.lt))

University of Valle d'Aosta – Italy ([www.univda.it](http://www.univda.it))

***VET Training institutions:***

Ida-Virumaa Vocational Education Centre – Estonia ([www.ivkhk.ee](http://www.ivkhk.ee))

Bildungszentren des Baugewerbes e. V. – Germany ([www.bzb.de](http://www.bzb.de))

Satakunnan koulutuskuntayhtymä – Finland ([www.sataedu.fi](http://www.sataedu.fi))

***Foundations concerned with VET training:***

ECAP Foundation for adult education and research – Switzerland ([www.ecap.ch](http://www.ecap.ch))

**About the Project**

**General Aims:**

*The Project aims at encouraging VET trainers and students to develop intercultural competences in order to improve the quality of their professional profile and their employability, thus reducing obstacles for international mobility and encouraging social cohesion in a globalized job market.*

*The INCOM-VET Project includes an inter-institutional consortium made of universities and VET institutions. It proposes a transfer of the innovative constructivist approach to building intercultural competences presented in the handbook “Building Intercultural Competences” (edited by M.G. Onorati and F. Bednarz, Acco, Leuven, 2010) to the sector of Vocational Education and Training.*

**Specific goals:**

- making intercultural competences a stable part of the VET curriculum;
- making the VET sector more attractive and competitive at a European level;

- strengthening the cooperation between higher education and vocational education and training;
- facilitating the involvement of different cultures and social groups into VET;
- increasing the professional profile of VET students and making them future global-ready professionals.

## **INCOM-VET's Educational Concept.**

### **Learning approach:**

- Constructivist approach to culture and education:
  - >> active learning, appraisal of contexts as texts and not as mere pretexts of sense-making and observation;
- Experiential learning based on the learning theory by David Kolb, Jack Mezirow's review of it in terms of transformative learning, and Graham Gibbs' further development with special reference to reflective practice;
- Problem based learning and co-construction of the learning environment;
- *Integration of new media – especially Web 2.0 and social media – in the educational pathway, as a highway to develop intercultural competency in the VET system.*

### ***Expected outputs:***

- A Handbook of methodology for development of intercultural competences
- A Handbook for VET teachers and trainers
- A Handbook for VET students
- Piloting of Living Labs (LL) in the four involved VET Institutions (Vilnius Builders Training Centre (VSRC) – Lithuania ([www.vsrc.lt](http://www.vsrc.lt)); Ida-Virumaa Vocational Education Centre – Estonia ([www.ivkhk.ee](http://www.ivkhk.ee)); Bildungszentren des Baugewerbes e. V. – Germany ([www.bzb.de](http://www.bzb.de)); Satakunnan koulutuskuntayhtymä – Finland ([www.sataedu.fi](http://www.sataedu.fi)))
- INCOM-VET website (<http://incom-vet.eu/en/>)