



I-STEP.EU

E-ZINE EDITION 1  
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## INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ENTREPRENEURS



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## WELCOME TO OUR FIRST E-ZINE

In recent years, VET colleges have shown impressive progress in developing entrepreneurship programmes in their schools. Even though many colleges also promote international experiences, besides entrepreneurial behaviour, for their students, the connection between entrepreneurship and internationalisation is made rarely. Wouldn't it be great if students that work on entrepreneurship were given the opportunity to work with foreign students and explore possibilities for internationalisation? This is exactly what the I-STEP project plans to do.

This is the first I-STEP newsletter. By sending out this newsletter, we would like to keep you up-to-date regarding project progress and activities. The newsletters will include news on research results, project results, project events, partnership meetings and much more.

Soon we will be active on social media as well. If you want to stay up-to-date more frequently, get involved in discussions, give your opinion or make a statement, please keep a close eye on our [website](http://www.i-step.eu).

Enjoy reading!

## Kick-off meeting in Groningen

On the 17th and 18th of November 2016, the I-STEP consortium met in Groningen, The Netherlands, to kick-off the I-STEP project. This first meeting brought together the partners in an effort to discuss and clarify the project purpose and aims, agree the operating procedures, confirm the role of each partner and agree all actions that will ensure the success of the project. Partners outlined immediate actions and drafted a detailed planning for the next six months. The 2nd partner meeting will be hosted by the Irish partner Momentum Marketing Services and is scheduled for 11 and 12 May in Leitrim.



I-STEP kick-off meeting in Groningen, The Netherlands

## Research results

In order to achieve the I-STEP objectives, the first step after the kick-off meeting was to undertake research. All partners conducted research to identify best practices and gather relevant information for the development of the I-STEP results.

Research results show that in most cases the VET schools in the participating European countries decide themselves how to design entrepreneurship education and internationalisation in their organisation. At this stage, entrepreneurship and internationalisation in VET colleges is mostly integrated in business study programmes only (not interdisciplinary) or it is offered as an optional part. However, representation of International business in VET in the involved regions is low and much more common in Higher Education. Currently, international business in VET is mostly triggered by mobility projects, international internships, international study visits and international projects.

Download the full research report [here!](#)



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### What?

Enhance international entrepreneurial skills and attitudes of teachers and students in VET.

### How?

By creating an international dimension to entrepreneurship programmes and strengthening the local and (EU business) network.

### Why?

Internationalisation makes people smarter, more creative and more entrepreneurial. Existing entrepreneurship programmes in VET have no clear and high quality international dimension.

## Next steps



In the coming months, the consortium will work on the development of the I-STEP results including the teacher manual, the training programme, the platform and the quality label. When first drafts are ready, partners will implement and test the developed results with the VET schools in their region. VET students will actually use the developed materials, cooperate with students from VET colleges in the other participating countries and meet each other on an international learning activity in the UK.

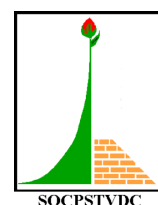
At the end of the implementation and testing phase, all partners will organise an event (also known as an Multiplier Event) to share and disseminate the final results amongst stakeholders. As there are 2 partners in Lithuania, The Netherlands and Ireland, these partners will team up to organise the event. Partners will invite VET teachers and students, VET board and coordinators and stakeholders from business, government and researchers. This will ensure a wide-ranging view on and promotion of the materials.

## Interested in the I-STEP project?

Are you interested in the I-STEP project? Do you want to get involved? Please let us know! I-STEP is active in The Netherlands, Ireland, The United Kingdom and Lithuania. You'll find the national contact details at the bottom of this page.



## I-STEP PARTNERS



BRIDGING TO THE FUTURE



Noorderpoort



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