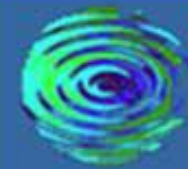


Peer Learning Activity  
9-10 April 2008, Vienna



European  
Lifelong  
Guidance  
Policy  
Network

Work package 3

# CAREER GUIDANCE IN BULGARIA

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*Chief expert in NAVET*

# GENERAL FRAMEWORK

- ◆ **Legislative basis** – VET Law, Employment promotion Act, Law for the higher education, Law for the public education
- ◆ **Strategic documents** - National Programme for Development of School and Pre-School Education 2006-2013, National Strategy for continuous vocational training 2005- 2010, Revised Employment strategy 2008 – 2015, National Employment Action Plan 2008
- ◆ Guidance for choice of occupation and career development – element of VET system
- ◆ Institutions for providing guidance stipulated in the VET Law
- ◆ Funds for providing guidance for unemployed - ensured through the active labour market measures

# COORDINATION MECHANISM

- ◆ National Agency for Vocational Education and Training (NAVET) – specialized government body for licensing of activities and coordination of institutions and organizations related to vocational education, training and guidance
- ◆ Functions of NAVET - participation in the development of policy documents in the field of VET and their implementation; development and updating of the basic documents for regulation of VET – List of Professions for Vocational Education and Training and State Vocational Standards for acquiring qualification in professions; licensing and follow up control of Centers for Vocational Training(employed and unemployed persons); Licensing of Centers for Information and Vocational Guidance
- ◆ Management Board – constituted on tripartite principle
- ◆ Expert Committees in vocational areas and 1 in vocational guidance
- ◆ Experience in coordination in the field of VET, still not in guidance

# GUIDANCE IN EDUCATION SECTOR

- ◆ National Pedagogic Centre with 27 regional branches – teachers training including in the field of guidance
- ◆ Pedagogical advisors in schools
- ◆ Training of advisors and teachers for acquiring internationally acknowledged certificate Global Career Development Facilitator (GCDF) – 60 trained, 600 involved in training, 15 certified trainers
- ◆ Introduction of modular training for early vocational guidance since 2006/2007 school year for students from 5th to 8th grade
- ◆ 514 curricula for the obligatory vocational preparation for XIIth grade including themes for career development approved for 2007/2008 school year and 400 teachers trained
- ◆ Building up of National Education Portal has started
- ◆ Career centres within 22 higher schools established

# GUIDANCE IN EMPLOYMENT SECTOR

- ◆ Local offices of the Employment Agency provide information and counselling of youth and adults
- ◆ Centres “Work” within local offices provide:
  - information about professions
  - group meetings – presentation of professions and different programmes
  - individual and group motivation activities, support for job search and preparation for applying for a job
- ◆ New opportunity – licensed by NAVET Centres for information and vocational guidance to provide guidance services to job seekers and the services will be paid with funds for active policy measures on the labour market

# COMPLIANCE WITH THE KEY CHARACTERISTIC OF EU MODEL FOR LLG

## Necessity of:

- ◆ development of **common national vision**, policy and technology for implementation of the activities for LLG
  - analysis and evaluation of the long term experience and achievements in guidance in education and employment sector
  - development of a national document for policies and activities, national strategy for their implementation
- ◆ implementation of **agreed national framework** for providing lifelong guidance services in normative and institutional plan
- ◆ **involvement of all interested institutions at national level** in the process of building up system for strategic leadership of LLG in Bulgaria

# PROJECT

## “STRENGTHENING CAREER GUIDANCE POLICY IN BULGARIA”

### Key objective


Supporting the development and implementation of national policies for information, guidance and counselling services in Bulgaria.

### Expected results:

- ◆ Analysis and assessment of the current situation in the career guidance policies and practice development in Bulgaria
- ◆ Study of the European tendencies in the career guidance development
- ◆ Organization of a broad public discussion for achievement of commitment of the responsible for policy making institutions and career guidance service providers in Bulgaria
- ◆ Development and approval by all stakeholders at national level of an agreed document – Road Map for establishment of a lifelong guidance system in Bulgaria
- ◆ Establishment of a national guidance forum in Bulgaria



# The project:

- ◆ Initiated by ETF
  - ◆ Funded by the Dutch Ministry of Education, culture and science through CROSS agency – government agency responsible for the cooperation with candidate and new EU member states
  - ◆ Implementation was delegated by CROSS to CINOP – the largest innovation and expertise centre in the field of VET in Netherlands
  - ◆ Main partner from Bulgaria - NAVET
  - ◆ Duration: 2007 - 2009
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# ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED

- ◆ Expert mission of CROSS/CINOP in Bulgaria for study of the current situation in the career guidance policies and practice development in Bulgaria – Report published
- ◆ Two study visits – in Brussels and in Netherlands of representatives of NAVET, EA, trade union, employers organization and Sofia municipality
- ◆ National seminar with representatives of the main stakeholders – presentation of the EU perspective in career guidance and discussion of the Report from the expert mission
- ◆ Concept for sub site to the web site of NAVET for providing career information – professions requiring up to secondary education level

# PLANNED ACTIVITIES

- ◆ **Preparation** of policy document for career guidance in Bulgaria (including model for providing services focused on the client for youth and adults) and documents for establishment of a National Guidance Forum
- ◆ **Regional seminars** with relevant regional stakeholders – discussion of policy document and documents for establishment of National Career Guidance Forum  
Participants: representatives of the local and regional authorities, institutions and organizations responsible for the policies and providing guidance services at regional and local level
- ◆ **National conference** for establishment of the Forum  
Participants: representatives of government institutions, employers and employees organizations, municipalities, education and training institutions, employment services, NGOs, guidance services providers, research institutes and organizations