

Erasmus+ "W.I.S.H." Project

(21st century skills)

School Project: "BUILD UP SKILLS FOR RESPONSIBLE BUSINESSES"

The project was mainly directed to students from the 4th and 5th year of the commercial and tourist courses of our Institute (around 90 students).

The **pedagogical goals** of the project were to increase the students self-esteem and enterprising spirit while contributing to create professional growth and better work opportunities in the future. At the same time the project aimed to foster entrepreneurial attitude in School paying attention also to sustainable development needs. Moreover, the project aimed to develop computer and foreign language skills both for students and teachers involved in the activities.

The **methodology** of the project fostered an active learning through practical and professional aspects and stimulated towards the acquisition and use of 'problem solving' strategies in real or simulated business situations through work based learning experiences. Students worked on the topic of Sustainable businesses in Italy (i.e. business plan with experts of small enterprises, local trips to see good practices) and participated to business simulation activities providing cultural, technical and operative tools useful to define a student own business plan (in particular the business ideas) in the field of social business and sustainable tourism. Students were finally involved in internship experiences in sustainable businesses.

In order to make the activities more effective our School made a partnership with two important local organisations: Conitours (tourism businesses consortium) and Industrial Union; in this way students developed some entrepreneurial ideas of responsible businesses and sustainable tourism, applying them to features and needs of the local environment. All this represented an integral part of the students' formative course and some CLIL lessons (business economics and tourist management in English) were carried out on the examined subjects.

The project had a big impact on students, teachers and other actors involved in the activities; as a **result**, the experiences contributed to increase the awareness and sensibility towards responsible business and fostered an entrepreneurial and more responsible role through the proposal of positive models; at the same time the activities of business simulation and the analysis of innovations and opportunities involved represented an opportunity for the students to reach personal assertiveness, thus proving to be a learning method focused on the different students' needs/competences/wishes (7 special needs students participated to the project and obtained a full integration in all the activities). At the same time students could gain knowledge and vocational specific competences, together with interpersonal and linguistic competences, which can all help the transition to the labor market.

The project contributed to reduce the dropout index by developing a greater confidence toward school and local Institutions.

Also some teachers have been involved in experimenting and implementing CLIL courses intended to students of the Institute. They also created some literature (e-clil teaching units on sustainable tourism) that has already been shared and that can be later used by other teachers interested in CLIL method teaching.