



I-STEP.EU

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## INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ENTREPRENEURS



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## ONE YEAR OF I-STEP: STATUS OF DEVELOPMENT

Christmas is in the air and 2017 is coming to an end. With the new year approaching it is time to reflect on the past and plan for the future. For the I-STEP consortium, 2017 has been a busy and exciting year. After conducting research, the partners met in Leitrim, Ireland. The host of the project meeting, Momentum, not only organised an efficient and effective project meeting to discuss project progress, they also made the meeting a memorable event with lots of inspiration and teambuilding activities.

Following the meeting, the 4 I-STEP products were developed over the summer, which we are proud to say are online and ready for testing. To evaluate the materials, the partners will ask their regional stakeholders to review and give feedback, so that they are ready for the training week with students in Birmingham at the end of January. Read all about it in this I-STEP newsletter.



## Leitrim village based training and development company Momentum hosted 2nd partner I-STEP partnership meeting

Through the I-STEP project, students will learn how international business works, collaborate with students of Entrepreneurial studies in Vocational Education and Training throughout Europe and create a new business model for internationalisation with their peers.

Orla Casey of Momentum explains their involvement:

*'In recent years, colleges in Ireland have made impressive progress teaching entrepreneurship. The quality of the programmes is increasing and more entrepreneurship programmes include active learning where students set up their businesses as part of the curriculum. However, these programmes rarely have an internationalisation element. We were motivated to join this project as we feel the next generation of export focused entrepreneurs should have knowledge and access of doing business internationally.'*



14 project partners came together for a two-day meeting. As part of the programme, presentations were made by Geraldine Reynolds of the Local Enterprise Office and 13-year-old young entrepreneur Zack Dolan, from Carrigallen Vocational School who won the Innovation Prize in the Junior category, at the Student Enterprise Programme National Finals. The partners also took part in outdoor activities where they could choose between paddle boarding and cycling with electric bikes. In the coming months partners will develop and finalise the International Student Programme, the platform and the quality label in order to help VET colleges add an international component to their entrepreneurship programmes.



### 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.

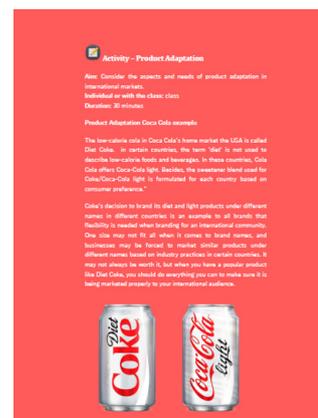
### Why?

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

## 4 I-STEP products online!

Check out the draft versions of the I-STEP products:

- [I-STEP teacher manual](#)
- [I-STEP training programme for students](#)
- [I-STEP platform and community](#)
- [I-STEP Quality label \(methodology + data sheet\)](#)



## Start evaluating

Before implementing the Intellectual Outputs (IOs) with the target group, it will be evaluated by the project partners and stakeholders in the Alpha test activity. All partners have involved key stakeholders in the first phase of the project. This network will be activated and involved, simultaneously creating support for the project and its result.

Let us know what you think and complete the questionnaire!

(<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TF5NQVL>)

## Next steps



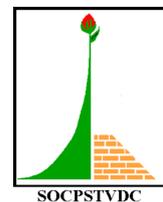
Next item on the agenda is probably the most exciting one: testing the materials with students and teachers.

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 in January 2018. This will be the kick-off of the implementation of the I-STEP programme in the participating colleges.

## 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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