

Digital supported tracking of employment and career progression of apprentices for Quality Assurance in VET

NEWSLETTER 4

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Main contents

Piloting process

Between spring and summer 2025, FOLLOW APP partners tested the Virtual Campus and Web Application in five countries. VET teachers, trainers, and apprentices explored the tools in real training contexts, offering valuable feedback on usability, content, and functionality. These pilot experiences helped refine the tools before public release and confirmed their usefulness for tracking graduates effectively.



Guidelines and Recommendations



Building on the pilot results, partners co-created a set of practical Guidelines and Policy Recommendations for graduate tracking in DUAL VET. The document highlights best practices, shared challenges, and digital strategies to improve monitoring at institutional and policy levels. These guidelines are designed to support wider adoption and influence future European approaches to VET quality assurance.

A Step Forward: Piloting the FOLLOW APP Tools Across Europe



Over the past months, May and June, the FOLLOW APP partnership has carried out an ambitious piloting phase of the project's main tools: the Virtual Campus and the Web Application. This pilot was conducted in Spain, Italy, Greece, Turkey, and Ireland, engaging VET teachers, in-company trainers, counsellors, and apprentices in real learning environments.

The aim of this phase was to:

- Test the usability and functionality of the digital tools.
- Evaluate their impact on the tracking of graduates in Dual Vocational Education and Training (DUAL VET).
- Gather user feedback to improve the tools before final delivery. and



Methodology and Process

Each country followed a structured piloting methodology, including:

- Local recruitment of participants from VET centres and companies.
- Orientation sessions with user guides and support materials.
- Practical testing of VOOCs, interactive elements, and tracking functionalities.
- Questionnaires and feedback sessions to assess user satisfaction and identify improvement areas.

Spain, for instance, involved both public and private training centres, supported by the regional education authority in Navarra. Teachers and apprentices tested the tools and highlighted the visual appeal, clarity of content, and the usefulness of progress tracking and data collection functionalities.

Other countries, such as Greece and Italy, emphasized the potential of the tools to foster stronger ties between schools and enterprises, while Turkey praised the responsiveness of the Web App for mobile-based surveys.



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From Testing to Strategy: Guidelines & Recommendations





Based on the national piloting reports, the partnership developed a shared document of "Guidelines and Recommendations on Graduate Tracking of Apprentices in Dual VET". This strategic output is aimed at:

- Providing comparative insights on national graduate tracking policies.
- Highlighting best practices and challenges in different contexts.
- Supporting the recognition of prior learning and informal education in DUAL VET.
- Recommending improvements for future digital tools and methodologies in graduate tracking. Key highlights of the Guidelines include:
- Strong need for data integration between training centres, employers, and national observatories.
- Emphasis on using mobile tools and web apps for real-time data collection.
- Promotion of policy-level adoption of graduate tracking tools across Europe.

What Comes Next?

As FOLLOW APP moves toward its final stages, the validated tools and the strategic recommendations will become part of an Open Educational Resource (OER). These will be freely available to VET providers, policy makers, and education stakeholders across Europe.

Stay tuned for the final conference, where partners will present the results, tools, and future outlooks of the FOLLOW APP initiative!

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TPM 4 in Dublin

Coordination, Communication & Next Steps: Key Takeaways from TPM4 in Dublin

During the fourth Transnational Project Meeting (TPM4), held in Dublin in April 2024 and hosted by INQS, the FOLLOW APP partners discussed a variety of strategic and operational aspects related to the project's coordination and final stages. A major point of agreement was the importance of consistency and alignment in external communication, especially as the project entered its most visible phase. Partners committed to increasing their use of social media, updating their institutional websites, and sharing content across platforms to amplify dissemination efforts.

Finally, the discussion focused on the preparation of the final deliverables and upcoming Multiplier Events. Partners exchanged ideas on target audiences, logistics, and possible synergies with other initiatives at local and national levels. INFODEF, as coordinator, emphasized the need to ensure strong participation and high-quality presentation of results to maximize project visibility and long-term impact.



PARTNERS:

















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