

Genk Meeting Tuesday 07/10/2025 – Friday 10/10/2025
Small-scale partnerships in vocational education and training
Sustainable Well-being in Personalized Education
2025-1-BE02-KA210-VET-000352664

Tuesday 07/10/2025: travel day/participants/hotel

-Jukka Vierimaa: Sataedu Finland, airBaltic
 (Tampere 5h30-Brussels national 8h50)

-David Duchamp and Dorothee Vaginay: Lycée Professionnel Hippolyte Carnot,
 Roanne (TGV Lyon-Brussel Midi)

-Monika Wahlund and Niklas Nilsson: Sunne gymnasieskola Södra Viken,
 norwegian airlines (Oslo-Gardermoen 11h15-Brussels national 13h25)

-Robert Gabriels: LIRO Services

-Erasmus+ team Atlas College Genk, domain Techniek & Innovatie:
 Jan Thijs, Desie Staeren, Inge Claessens, Elke Cosemans, Kristof Mebis

Green Hotel, Europalaan 68, 3600 Genk

Wednesday 08/10/2025: meeting in school

“Early leavers reduction strategies”

07.45h Departure at the hotel.

08.00h Welcome. Clarifying project's objectives (Jan Thijs).

08.30h Guided tour domain Techniek & Innovatie (Erasmus+ team).

09.30h

- **Share/analyze** the early leavers rates in truck driver training programs across partner countries, identifying key risk factors, trends, and variations based on demographics such as country, gender, and socio-economic background.
- Early leavers reduction strategies:
Sharing good (proven) practices.
 Tailored interventions (mentoring, individualized learning plans, monitoring, evaluation, impact, ...).
 (Success indicator: A 'measurable' reduction in early leavers rates among apprentice truck drivers).
- Developing a dissemination plan.

10.15h Break.

10.30h

- Pedagogical approach Techniek & Innovatie **part 1** (Joris Aerts, student counsellor).
- Pedagogical approach Techniek & Innovatie **part 2** (Bjorn Houben and Chloé Stouten, first line students counsellors).

11.45h Go for lunch: De Kolonie (As, 10 kilometres from Genk).

12.00h Guided tour in the kolonie (Ben Knoops).

De kolonie: Workable and noticeably different

Providing meaningful and sustainable employment and support to people who are distanced from the labour market in a way that suits their talents and gives them satisfaction.

12.30h Lunch (daily menu or à la carte).

14.00h Guided cultural activities (coal mine, former Ford site, ect...).

16.00h Free time.

18.30h Dinner (’t Stadscafé, Marktstraat 28, 3600 Genk).

**Thursday 09/10/2025: meeting in the company
(H.Essers, Patrick Renckens: Coordinator Resources)**

“Early leavers reduction strategies”

08.45h Departure at the hotel.

09.30h – 11h30

- **Welcome.**
- **Identify** root causes of early leavers (common reasons like work-life imbalance, long working hours and irregular schedules, job stress, physical demands, low job satisfaction,...).
Strategies to reduce early leavers.
Collaboration with education.
- Guided tour.

12.30h Lunch: De Kolonie.

14.00h

- Meeting assessment:
Have the predefined objectives been achieved?
Where do we need to make adjustments?
- Report of the meeting and tasks.

16.00h Free time.

18.30h Dinner (location to be determined, depending on interest).

Friday 10/10/2025: travel day

Priorities and Topics

All project proposals under the Erasmus+ Programme should contribute to one or more of the programme's policy priorities.

HORIZONTAL:

Inclusion and diversity in all fields of education, training, youth and sport

If relevant, please select up to two additional priorities according to the objectives of your project.

VET:

Increasing the flexibility of opportunities in vocational education and training

Increasing attractiveness of VET

Please select up to three topics addressed by your project.

Physical and mental health, well-being

Preventing early school leaving and failure in education

International relations and development cooperation

Project description: 'Sustainable Well-being in Personalized Education'

'SWiPE: 'S'ustainable 'W'ell-being 'i'n 'P'ersonalized 'E'ducation) is a multidisciplinary, intercultural project involving five EU-partners, all working in VET.

Four partners (Atlas College Genk 6 in Belgium, Södra Viken in Sweden (Sunne), Lycée Professionnel Hippolyte Carnot in

France (Roanne) and Sataedu in Finland (Kokemäki)) train young people (from the age of 16) to become truck drivers.

The fifth partner (LIRO Services in Belgium) is a small company that provides education support services, human health care (specific well-being) and is experienced in European projects.

The partners are already working together in a KA1, targeting the vocational competences of truck drivers.

Truck driver students who start their education/training should be able to successfully complete their training. Still, we notice a quite high early leavers among students, mainly among the applicant.

In Sweden, the truck driver course is apparently very popular: almost no early leavers and many girls in the course.

In Finland, students are re-oriented more quickly.

In France, early leaverst rates remain relatively low, with differences mainly related to the origin and gender of pupils and the location of the school.

Adolescents without starting qualifications struggle in the labour market and are at greater risk of social exclusion. People without a basic qualification also have higher healthcare costs.

This project seeks to address these challenges by including and actively supporting at-risk youth, promoting their integration into education and society, and encouraging diversity within vocational training.

Early school leaving and failure in education are key contributors to these issues, often resulting in reduced opportunities and increased social challenges for young people.

'SWiPE' emphasises the importance of sustained physical and mental health and overall well-being, recognising that a supportive and healthy environment is crucial for students to thrive and successfully complete their education.

'SWiPE' aims to reduce the early leavers rate among apprentice truck drivers and, in doing so, make other vocational training much more attractive for adolescents by addressing their specific needs, enhancing teaching methods and aids and promoting the value of vocational education as a rewarding and viable career pathway.

The project also aims to foster stronger international relations and development cooperation among the partners.

By sharing good practices, engaging in cross-border collaboration and promoting intercultural understanding 'SWiPE' contributes to the broader goal of strengthening educational networks across Europe.

These aims will be achieved in '5' work packages:

1/ 'Early leavers reduction strategies' (B)

2/ 'Promoting diversity and inclusion' (S)

3/ 'Innovative approaches in teaching and learning practices' (FIN)

4/ 'Support for possible early school leavers' (F)

5/ 'Evaluation and sustainability' (B)