

EUROPEAN PROJECTS

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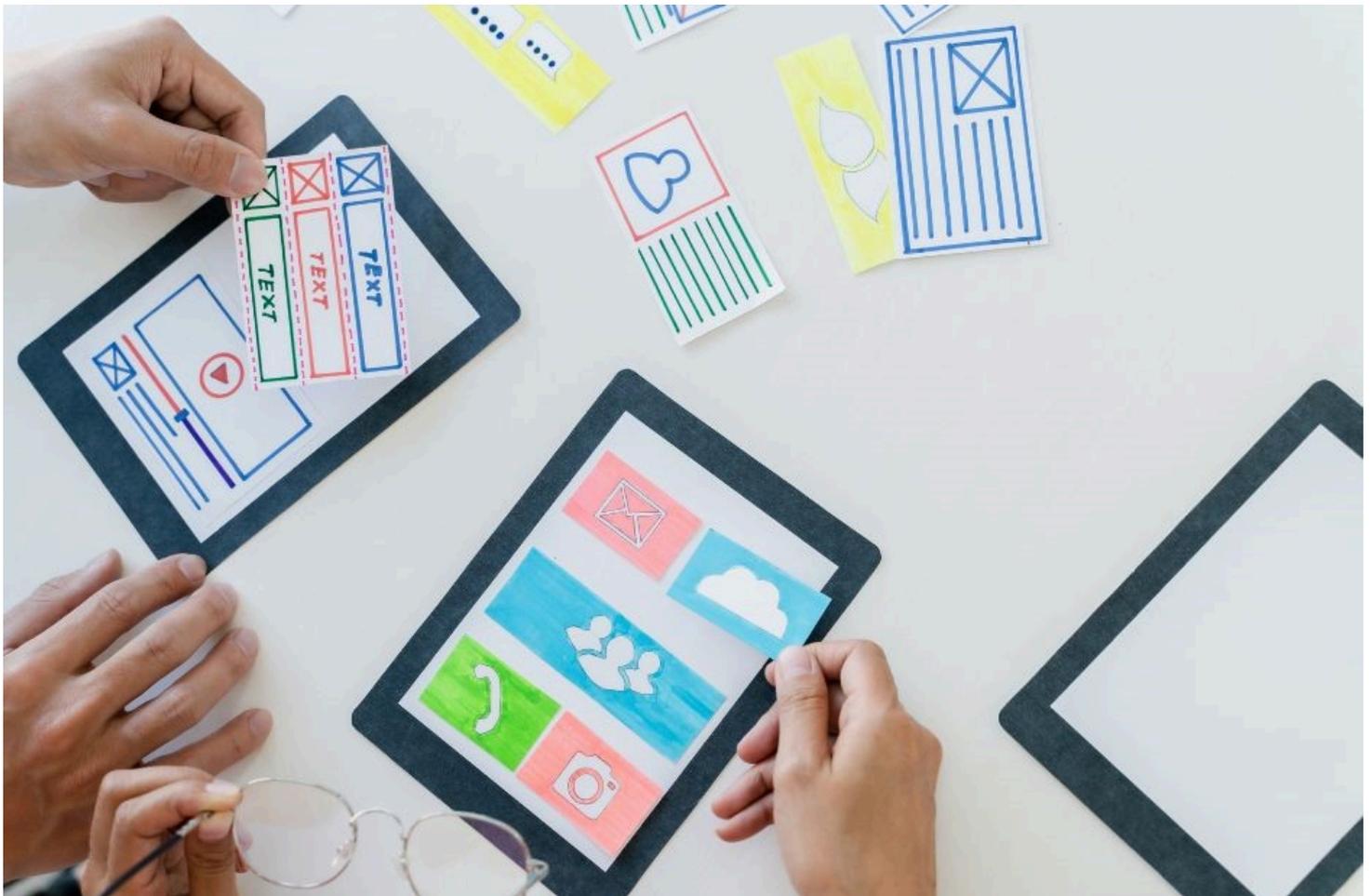
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01 | **VET Marketplace: A New EU Project for Metropolitan College Bridging VET Education with Industry**

AKMI International proudly announces the success of our **VET Marketplace proposal**, a brand new initiative developed under the **Erasmus+ KA220-VET program**, with **Metropolitan College** as a key consortium member. This project aims to bridge the gap between vocational education and the labor market **in the fields of Graphic Design and Web Development**.

Through the innovative **"VET Marketplace"** students will engage in real-life projects commissioned by SMEs and start-ups, gaining hands-on experience that directly aligns with industry needs. This approach is set to significantly **enhance student employability by equipping them with practical, in-demand skills**. Additionally, the project will strengthen collaborations between VET institutions and the labor market, ensuring that curricula remain relevant and responsive to industry changes. In parallel, VET Marketplace will also empower trainers and employers as mentors, providing essential tools and frameworks to guide students effectively.

During the project's lifespan, 20 Metropolitan College students will undergo a comprehensive **six-week training program in entrepreneurial and communication skills**, preparing them to take on assignments within the VET Marketplace, where they will apply their newly acquired skills to real projects provided by SMEs and start-ups.

This initiative represents a major advancement in vocational education, making it more flexible, accessible, and aligned with digital transformation, thereby **positioning Metropolitan College at the forefront of vocational training innovation**.

Stay tuned

02 | **SHINE Project: Successful Study Visit to Ghana Strengthens VET Collaboration**





In July, as part of the **SHINE project**, partners from six countries—**Spain, The Netherlands, Greece, Nigeria, Uganda, and Ghana**—participated in a five-day study visit to **Ghana**. The visit focused on strengthening **vocational education and training (VET) collaboration** between **African and European institutions**.

During the first two days, partners visited key institutions, including the **Ghana TVET Service, Sector Skills Bodies, and the Energy Commission of Ghana**. They also explored the **Accra Technical Training Centre and Solar Taxi**, an e-mobility company providing sustainable transportation solutions. The group then traveled to **Kumasi** to visit **Suame Technical Institute**, where they observed teaching methods and curricula to inform the co-development of future VET programs.

This successful study visit allowed partners to gain valuable insights from local experts and stakeholders in VET and solar energy, helping to shape future **educational initiatives** across the regions.

[Learn more](#)

03 | WeB-Nimbus Project to Boost Digital Education in Albania and Kosovo



Metropolitan College is proud to announce its partnership in the "**WeB-Nimbus**" project, recently awarded funding under the **ERASMUS+ Capacity Building for Higher Education program**. This initiative aims to revolutionize **digital education** in **Albania** and **Kosovo** by introducing an **MSc program in Cloud and Edge Computing**, as well as a Learning Management System for specialized online courses.

Despite a rapidly growing ICT sector, both countries currently lack tailored cloud-based curricula, leaving local businesses reliant on outdated technologies. WeB-Nimbus addresses this gap by developing a **cutting-edge curriculum** in collaboration with **cloud-computing businesses** and **experts** from **Higher Education Institutions (HEIs)**. The project also focuses on policy advocacy, enhancing GDPR compliance in e-data management.

To strengthen ties between education and the labor market, the initiative introduces a **Work-Based Learning & Employer Engagement Methodology**. Academic staff will receive capacity-building training through EU study visits, enabling them to deliver the MSc program to **120 students** and online courses to **300 learners** during the pilot phase. The program will be accredited by national authorities, allowing joint delivery by Albanian and Kosovar partners.

WeB-Nimbus not only benefits Albania and Kosovo but also sets a precedent for digital transformation in the **Western Balkans**, closing gaps in advanced digital

education and fostering stronger industry-academia collaboration.

Stay tuned

04 | **ReGROW CBHE: Advancing Agricultural Education in Georgia and Ukraine**



We are excited to share the news that the **ReGROW (Rebuilding Growth in Agriculture in Post-Conflict Ukraine & Transitioning Georgia)** project has been approved under the **Capacity Building in Higher Education (CBHE)** action. Coordinated by **Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (AUTH)**, ReGROW is set to transform higher education in **Georgia** and **Ukraine** by establishing a cutting-edge joint **MSc program in Precision Agriculture**. This innovative project brings together 15 partners, including universities, governmental bodies, and NGOs from **Greece, Germany, Georgia, and Ukraine**.

ReGROW will play a critical role in fostering sustainable agricultural practices and aligning with the priorities of the **EU Green Deal**. By equipping **students** and **professionals** with advanced skills in precision agriculture, the project aims to

support **socio-economic development** and help **rebuild the agricultural sector** in post-conflict Ukraine and transitioning Georgia.

Metropolitan College, through the **AKMI International** department, was instrumental in the proposal's success, further demonstrating our commitment to promoting educational excellence in partnership with leading European institutions. We are eager to see the positive impact **ReGROW** will have on higher education and agriculture in the region.

Stay tuned

05 | Metropolitan College Highlights VirtuEu Project at University of Aveiro Conference



Metropolitan College recently made a strong impact at the **8th International Conference on Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Marketing and Consumer Behaviour (ICIEMC) 2024**, hosted virtually by the **University of Aveiro** on June 27 and 28. This prestigious event provided an excellent platform to showcase the **VirtuEu Project**, a pioneering Virtual Exchange initiative aimed at fostering active citizenship and civic engagement among higher education students across Europe and the Western Balkans.

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VirtuEu, which embodies core European values of civic responsibility and critical thinking, has developed a robust curriculum featuring 11 courses. These courses are designed to encourage students to **collaborate** and **engage** in meaningful discussions on issues that shape today's society.

During a special session moderated by **Manuel Au-Yong Oliveira** from the University of Aveiro, who also serves as **the VirtuEu Project Coordinator**, Metropolitan College presented a course focused on combating fake news and online disinformation. This course highlights the project's commitment to empowering young people with the tools and knowledge necessary to navigate the complexities of the digital world. By promoting **critical thinking** and **media literacy**, VirtuEu aims to prepare students to tackle one of the most pressing challenges of our time: **misinformation in the digital age**.

The session also offered a glimpse into VirtuEu's innovative approach to online education and provided insights into the **virtual classes** set to launch in the upcoming academic year. With course enrollment opening soon, VirtuEu is positioned to lead the way in advancing **civic education** and nurturing informed, engaged citizens ready to make a positive impact in their communities.

[Learn more](#)



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