

## **Apprenticeship in tourism in France and in Bulgaria**

### **The challenge**

- Adapting the vocational training to the needs of employers;
- Providing a work based learning in a real working environment;
- Making Bulgarian tourism more attractive.

### **The approach**

The practice took advantage directly by the French experience. The training path is oriented to the practice and includes: drawing up a marketing strategy of a hotel/restaurant, analytical reports, work environment cases, foreign languages, etc.

The apprenticeship is a part of the curriculum. It takes place in France and in Bulgaria and contributes to the adaptation of Bulgarian specialists to the professional environment.

During the education students have 3 in-company trainings – 2 in France and 1 in Bulgaria. The duration of training is 3-4 months.

### **The role of supporting organizations**

- Programme Francophone d'hôtellerie et restauration – Vocational training /Higher education provider;
- In the beginning – GRETA de Nice. This French institution for continuous VET assisted in the creation, development and implementation of the apprenticeship programme. Initially its role has been to act as an intermediary organization between the Programme Francophone - Albena and the French employers hosting Bulgarian/international students;
- French and Bulgarian employers in hospitality and gastronomy industry (e.g. company VACANCIONS, ALBENA SA).

### **The results**

- Successful transfer of best practice from the French experience in the field of hotel and restaurant vocational education and training;
- Providing suitable staff possessing adequate qualification and experience;
- Developed "Programme for organization, co-ordination and control of compulsory internship"