

Article #1

VIPsVIBES: The inclusion of visually impaired persons in the bakery sector

The VIPsVIBES project is funded under the Erasmus+ program in the field of vocational education and training. This project aims to promote the **inclusion of people with visual impairments (VIPs) in the world of work**, to give them new opportunities, particularly in the baking sector.

VIPsVIBES started at the beginning of October 2023 and it will end in September 2025.

The project consortium includes partners from different countries in Europe, with expertise ranging from educational to digital to social inclusion. The collaboration is led by the Romanian organization ASSOC, joined by other institutions and entities with years of experience in inclusion projects.

DISCOVER THE PROJECT CONSORTIUM:

COORDINATOR:

-Asociatia Profesionala Neguvernamentala de Asistentă Socială - ASSOC (Romania)

PARTNERS:

- National Association for Inclusion - NA4I (Bulgaria)



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"The inclusion of visually impaired persons in the bakery sector", project number 2023-1-RO01-KA220-VET-000154452

- The Budapest School for the Blind (Hungary)
- European Digital Learning Network ETS - DLEARN (Italy)
- Finance & Banking, Association for Organizational and Human Resources Development - EFFEBI (Italy)
- Emphasys Interactive Solutions (Cyprus)

MAIN GOALS OF THE PROJECT:

VIPsVIBES aims to:

- 1) Delivery of a **METHODOLOGICAL HANDBOOK** to provide the necessary skills for VIPs who want to work in the bakery sector and for employers in the bakery sector to create an inclusive work space;
- 2) Deliver a **DIGITAL COMPETENCE TOOLKIT** to provide a guideline to make the bakery inclusive for VIPs;
- 3) Create a **VIPsVIBES CURRICULUM** establishing 2 new figures: VIP BAKERY ASSISTANTS and the creation of BAKERY MENTORS.

New visually impaired and blind professionals will then be trained as **VIP ASSISTANTS IN THE BAKERY SECTOR**, providing them with the necessary skills to enter the job market. At the same time, a new figure of **BAKERY MENTOR** will be created, working to make the work environment inclusive, both in social aspects, combating discrimination in the workplace, and in architectural aspects, making the bakery accessible.

VIPsVIBES brings an innovative idea, proposing a unique training course in Europe to make the baking industry as inclusive as possible, acting both to train blind and visually impaired workers to enter the baking world and to train new people who are already in the baking world and who can make it more inclusive and suitable for blind and visually impaired workers.

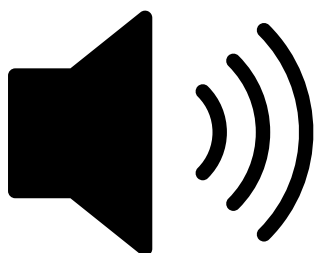


AN IMPORTANT IMPACT

The project aims to **increase the employment opportunities of people with visual impairments**, improving their independence and quality of life. In addition, the bakery sector will benefit from the introduction of a new workforce, helping to alleviate the shortage of skilled workers, a common issue across the European landscape.

VIPsVIBES offers a tangible opportunity to **bring the values of inclusion and equality into the world of work**, seeking to transform the bakery sector as a place of example to foster inclusion and accessibility for all.

 To avoid missing any information about the project, follow the project website:
<https://vipsvibes.eu/>



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