



SUPPORTSPHERE

NEWSLETTER

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Welcome to the Second Edition of the SupportSphere Newsletter

Over the past months, the SupportSphere project has continued to progress across partner countries, focusing on strengthening support systems for VET learners at key moments of their educational and professional pathways. As young people navigate the transition from education to employment, ensuring timely guidance and accessible resources remains essential to prevent disengagement and support informed career decisions.

During this period, the consortium has moved from design to implementation, developing concrete tools and piloting activities aimed at responding to real needs identified across different national contexts. A key milestone has been the creation of the self-evaluation tool for career interests, designed to support learners in reflecting on their strengths, preferences, and potential career paths. At the same time, the SupportSphere e-learning platform has been developed as a central space where users can access training materials, interactive tools, and real-life insights through interviews with young professionals.

In parallel, partners have started implementing pilot training activities and organising online and multiplier events, engaging VET students, trainers, and stakeholders in discussions around career guidance, transitions, and employability. These activities are already generating valuable feedback from both learners and trainers, helping refine the project's outputs and ensuring their relevance and usability in practice.

In this edition of the newsletter, we invite you to explore these developments in more detail. You will discover how the self-evaluation tool was created, learn more about the features and objectives of the e-learning platform, and gain insights from the first pilot activities and events organised across partner countries.

Main Activities and Updates

E-Learning Platform

The SupportSphere e-learning platform has been developed as part of the project to provide an accessible digital environment that supports career guidance and reflective learning for vocational education and training (VET) learners, trainers, and young adults. It serves as a central hub where users can access project resources and engage with tools designed to support career exploration and informed decision-making.

The platform is developed and technically implemented by SAEK Egaleo, as task leader for this activity, with IT officer Vana Rizou leading the platform architecture, integration of learning resources, and overall functionality.

Its main objective is to offer a structured and user-friendly space where learners can better understand their skills, interests, and career aspirations. At the same time, it supports VET trainers and mentors by providing practical materials and methodological guidance that can be used in career counselling and mentoring activities. In this way, the platform contributes to building a supportive ecosystem that encourages self-reflection, exploration, and peer learning.

The platform hosts a range of resources developed within the project, including the training programme for VET trainers, career guidance materials, and self-evaluation tools that help learners assess their interests and development needs. It also features interviews with young professionals from different sectors, offering real-life perspectives on career pathways and transitions into the labour market. These elements help connect theoretical concepts with practical experiences, making the learning process more relatable and meaningful. In addition, the platform includes discussion forums available in English, Greek, Spanish, and Italian. These spaces allow users to exchange ideas, share experiences, and engage in discussions related to career development and vocational education, fostering a sense of community among participants.

The platform has been designed to be accessible, easy to navigate, and flexible to use. Users can explore materials at their own pace and engage with the content in a way that supports both independent learning and guided activities.

One of the main challenges in the development process has been ensuring a fully functional multilingual environment. Providing access in four languages requires careful alignment of content, interface elements, and navigation across all versions. This has required close coordination among partners to ensure consistency, usability, and accuracy.

Overall, the SupportSphere e-learning platform represents a key component of the project, ensuring that its resources remain accessible, usable, and sustainable beyond the project's lifetime.



The SupportSphere e-learning platform is available online. Visit <https://supportspherelearning.eu/> to explore the resources, tools, and materials developed within the project.

A Self-Evaluation Tool for VET Learners

Choosing a career path is not a one-time decision, but a gradual process of self-discovery and exploration. The self-evaluation tool developed by ENAIP NET within the SupportSphere project was designed with this perspective in mind: to support VET learners in better understanding themselves and making more informed choices about their professional future.

The tool combines two complementary dimensions. The first questionnaire focuses on interests, attitudes and personal inclinations, helping learners identify areas in which they can best express their potential. Inspired by the orientation framework developed by [ELIS](#) and adapted to vocational education and training contexts, this section provides users with a profile and a set of possible professions to explore. The second questionnaire shifts the focus to the individual's level of awareness and activation in their career guidance journey, encouraging reflection on behaviours, experiences and decision-making processes.

What makes this tool particularly innovative is its dual nature: it is not only an assessment instrument, but also a reflective guide. Rather than prescribing “the right path”, it invites learners to ask meaningful questions about themselves, transforming results into a starting point for further exploration. This approach helps avoid rigid labels and instead promotes a dynamic and personalised understanding of career development.

The tool is freely available on the SupportSphere e-learning platform in four languages — English, Greek, Italian and Spanish — making it accessible to a wide and diverse audience. To use it, learners simply need to create a personal login to access the platform, where the tool is hosted and can be completed independently.



The SupportSphere Self-Evaluation Tool is available online. Visit <https://supportspherelearning.eu/> to explore the resources, tools, and materials developed within the project.



Pilot Activities

One of the key milestones of the project was the pilot testing of the training programme, which has already been successfully implemented in Greece. The activities were organised by SAEK Egaleo with the aim of evaluating the relevance and applicability of the resources developed within the project. It took place on 5, 9, 10, and 11 March 2026, involving 19 VET learners and 6 VET trainers who actively participated in testing the training modules and career guidance tools.

During the sessions, participants engaged in interactive activities combining presentations, group discussions, and practical exercises focused on career guidance and professional identity. The training supported VET trainers in strengthening their mentoring skills, while also introducing tools to help learners reflect on their interests, skills, and future pathways.

As part of the pilot, learners tested the SupportSphere self-evaluation tool, which encourages reflection on personal strengths and career directions. This activity helped participants develop a more structured understanding of career planning.

Feedback collected during the pilot phase indicates a high level of satisfaction among both trainers and learners. Trainers highlighted the practical relevance of the materials, while learners reported increased awareness of their interests and greater motivation to reflect on their future.

Overall, the pilot confirmed the value of the SupportSphere approach in supporting career guidance within VET. The insights gathered will contribute to further improving the training materials and strengthening their impact.



Event in Italy

Together with ENAIP NET, the University of Verona contributed to SupportSphere by presenting the project within a broader event entitled “MindTheJob 2026: Cognitive Styles and Occupational Choices”, held on 12 March 2026.

The event provided a valuable platform for discussion on the relationship between cognitive processes, individual differences, and career decision-making, particularly in the context of transitions from education to employment.

SupportSphere was introduced within this framework, presenting its objectives, target groups, and key outputs, including the Handbook, the Training Programme, and the Self-Evaluation Tool. Participants were also guided through the e-learning platform, including the registration process and the main available resources.

The event brought together participants from diverse backgrounds and age groups, enhancing its value in terms of dissemination and outreach. The integration of SupportSphere into a broader academic and research context allowed for meaningful exchanges and connections with complementary initiatives.



Event in Greece

On 20 March 2026, SAEK Egaleo, in collaboration with Euricon, organised a SupportSphere event aimed at presenting the project and engaging young people in discussions on career guidance and professional development. The event brought together 40 participants, mainly VET learners and young adults transitioning into the labour market.

The session introduced the objectives and key outputs of the SupportSphere project, with a focus on strengthening career guidance and supporting young people in navigating transitions. Participants were presented with the project's resources, including training materials, methodologies, and the e-learning platform.

A central element of the event was the live demonstration of the platform, allowing participants to explore its structure, modules, and self-evaluation tools. Feedback was highly positive, with participants highlighting the platform's usability and its usefulness in supporting self-reflection and skills assessment.

The event also featured interviews with young professionals, providing real-life insights into career pathways. These were particularly appreciated for their authenticity and their ability to connect learning content with real-world experiences.

In addition, a young professional participated live, sharing her personal career journey and engaging in discussion with participants. This interactive component created a dynamic and inspiring environment.

Overall, the event received very positive feedback, with participants reporting increased motivation to reflect on their career paths. The activity contributed to raising awareness of the importance of structured career guidance in VET and confirmed the relevance of the project's tools.



Multiplier Event in Italy: Bridging Training and the World of Work

On 10 April, from 9:00 to 11:00, at the Sala Civica of the Municipality of Isola della Scala, the Peer-to-peer Networking Event organised by ENAIP NET took place within the framework of the SupportSphere project. The initiative was designed to bring VET students closer to real-life professional experiences and career pathways through direct exchange with former students. It involved 34 students from ENAIP vocational training programmes, specifically third-year classes in Information Technology and in Catering. The session was enriched by the participation of three former ENAIP students who returned as testimonials to share their personal and professional journeys: Matteo Sitta, Andrea Farinazzo and Nicole Bertasini.

Two of the guests, former students from the IT programme, are currently employed in technical roles in industrial companies. The third guest, a former catering student, built her career in the pastry sector after several years of experience in a bakery and has now successfully opened her own pastry business. Their stories offered students concrete and relatable examples of different ways to enter and grow in the labour market.

The event was structured as a dynamic learning experience. It began with an introduction to the SupportSphere project, followed by an interactive activity with the support of a digital tool designed to stimulate reflection on future aspirations, perceived readiness for the labour market, key priorities in a future job, main concerns, and the types of support students feel they need most. This moment allowed participants to express their views anonymously and collectively, creating a starting point for discussion.

The core of the event was dedicated to peer-to-peer dialogue. The three former students shared their experiences by addressing key questions about their educational background, career decisions, access to employment opportunities, daily tasks and required skills. They also shared practical advice for students currently enrolled in vocational training. Their answers provided authentic insights into the realities of different professional sectors and highlighted the importance of both technical and transversal competences.

A highly interactive Q&A session followed, during which current students were able to ask questions, express doubts, and engage directly with the speakers. This exchange proved to be one of the most valuable moments of the event, fostering openness, motivation and a sense of proximity between education and the labour market.

Overall, the event was widely appreciated by participants for its practical value, authenticity, and engaging format. It successfully strengthened the connection between vocational education and real-world professional experiences, reinforcing the importance of peer learning as a powerful tool for guidance and career development.



What is coming next

Looking ahead, the SupportSphere project will enter its final phase of implementation and dissemination. In May 2026, partners will meet in Brussels for the next Transnational Project Meeting (TPM), where the consortium will review progress and coordinate the final steps of the project.

In the following months, the rest of the multiplier events will be organised in each partner country, aiming to present the project's results and engage relevant stakeholders at national level. These events will play a key role in ensuring the visibility and uptake of the project's outputs.

The project will conclude with a final conference and multiplier event in Greece in September 2026, bringing together partners, stakeholders, and participants to share results, reflect on the project's impact, and explore opportunities for future collaboration and sustainability.

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