

VOCATIONAL SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE “TSARITSA YOANNA” AND ENTER

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In its 117-year history, Vocational High School of Agriculture “Tsaritsa Yoanna” – city of Pazardzhik, which is one of the oldest and most prestigious agricultural schools in Bulgaria, actively participates in the development and successful implementation of various projects, both in national programs and with European funding.

Looking forward our vision for the promotion and development of our school is connected with providing:

- High quality training and education according to European standards;
- Mobility to learners opportunities and needs of the labor market including adult education;
- Transparency of training and education;
- Flexibility and responsibility regarding the dynamics in the development of science, engineering and technology.
- Construction of key skills and adherence to the values of civil society;
- Activity and responsibility for cooperation and social partnership.

Our ENTER membership is connected to the listed above.

How did it began: in 2005 the Principal of the PGSS “Tsaritsa Yoanna” – Eng. George Gatev, was invited by Dr. Tonya Georgieva, Assoc. Prof. – ENTER coordinator for Bulgaria, to participate as a partner in an international project PROSOLVA. After the participation of eng. Gatev in the meeting in Spain, together with representatives from eight countries, participating in the project, it became clear that the main aim of the PROSOLVA is to test and implement new methods of teaching in all participating countries. After the meeting, “Tsaritsa Yoanna” Vocational School created its own working group for implementing the steps of the project. The working group fixed an important problem in our school – for enhancing work motivation of teachers and students. As a result of our work, we concluded that:

1. Teachers in “Tsaritsa Yoanna” have the ability to work in a team and help each other in their pedagogical practice. They are open to new ideas, have diligence and

willingness to use new methods of training that improve their work and increase students' motivation.

2. Students work more carefully. They capture teaching innovations, which reflects positively on their discipline, activity and motivation. They evaluate the work of their teacher, which reflects on the work of students and increase their motivation.

At the end of the project PROSOLVA, in 2008 as a natural continuation we received an invitation for membership in the international organization ENTER, whose members are the project partners. The essence of our membership in ENTER is expressed in the fact that our school is assisted in the implementation of our set objectives and development strategy. It is useful that the organization conducts Training Days, both in our country and abroad. In these days we have the opportunity to communicate directly with the partners, to ask our questions and share our experience in development vocational education at European level. The system is flexible, it does not remain static, which gives perspective for the development of vocational education and training in the field of agriculture.

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