

# Supporting Talent to Employment Programme (STEP) projects

# STEP

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The STEP programme in the UK is linked to partner agencies in Greece, Holland, Italy and Spain. These countries run projects which support the development of skills and training through informal and non-formal learning, with funding from Leonardo, part of the European Commission's Lifelong Learning Programme. STEP projects are concerned with creating new learning, employment and career pathways for disadvantaged and disaffected young people.

The partner projects come together to share their learning and disseminate good practice at conferences held in each country in turn. The aim is to develop trans-national, European competences for mentors and support workers in the informal learning sector. They will also produce a handbook comparing the different models in each country.



[www.cross-step.org](http://www.cross-step.org)

WAC Performing Arts and Media College is a constituent part of InterChange Trust, Registered Charity No. 267043 and a Company Limited by Guarantee No. 1158819 (Registered in England and Wales).

For more information on the WAC STEP programme, please contact **Celia Greenwood** on:  
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WAC Performing Arts and Media College is based in the UK and is the lead partner for the STEP project which has seven partners from Spain, Greece, Holland, Italy and the UK. WAC has been working for more than 30 years in developing opportunities for young people in the creative arts field.

Supporting Talent to Employment Programme (STEP) has the goal of developing a common European framework of competences for mentors and support workers in the non-formal learning sector. STEP operates in the creative industries, including music, drama, visual arts, media production and design.

STEP works with organisations that utilise informal learning, delivered through artistic and cultural expression, to provide vocational support to disadvantaged and disaffected young people.

Leonardo is the European Social Fund (ESF) funded lifelong learning programme which supports the development of skills and training. It funds work placements for trainees, workers and staff, and supports European projects to discuss common issues or develop training materials, courses and frameworks. Leonardo is part of the European Commission's Lifelong Learning Programme.

Ecotec is the UK National Agency for Leonardo.

	PROJECT	CONTACT	PROJECT DETAILS
1	ArtQuimia	<b>David Garcia Gonzalez</b> email: artquimia@artquimia.net	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ArtQuimia, based in Malaga, Spain, is a leading training provider for professionals in the music industry and for those who want to pursue a career in the music or performing arts industry. Uses the latest production processes and technology.</li> <li>• Offers short courses from basic to highly specialised level with some of our courses currently in the process of Open College Network validation. These include; basic digital sound, music creation using digital technology, professional sound technology, music production and music production for live events and concerts.</li> <li>• Aims, through STEP, to compare methods and approaches and develop a common competency framework to support young disadvantaged people to become mentors and support workers. Also to develop a common validated set of competences for support workers and mentors in the cultural and creative industries.</li> </ul>
2	Collage Arts	<b>Manoj Ambasna</b> email: manoj@collage-arts.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collage Arts is a leading arts development, training and creative regeneration organisation based in the London Borough of Haringey's Cultural Quarter. For over 20 years Collage Arts has created opportunities for greater participation in the arts and creative industries for the whole community. Provides a range of learning programmes, business support services, facilities and resources.</li> <li>• Offers a range of accredited creative learning programmes developed over the last 10 years around music, film and the performing arts. Also a commercial music programme covering the business and technical areas of the music industry, free or subsidised for unwaged people. Provides advice and guidance to those keen on a career or business in the creative industries.</li> <li>• Runs a pan-London youth project for 16-18 year olds who are Not in Education, Employment or Training and who wish to improve their prospects and opportunities in the creative industries.</li> </ul>
3	Dimitra	<b>George Petrou</b> email: contact@dimitra.gr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Offers training in four major cities in Greece and has provided services to more than 15,000 people over 20 years. This ranges from on-the-job training provision, to support with professional and employment opportunities that reflect the constantly changing demands of the labour market. Working primarily with unemployed and socially excluded groups, as well as those employed in the public and private sectors, to identify vocational training needs and assist people into work.</li> <li>• A history of working internationally to facilitate sharing of expertise and to develop innovative training structures. Also offers consultancy and advice, arranges conferences and exhibitions to promote equal opportunities in employment.</li> <li>• Develops educational materials including books and manuals, videos and educational games, including the use of new technology to enable distance and e-learning.</li> </ul>
4	HAN University- Institute of Social Studies	<b>Harm Jan van Dijk</b> email: harmjan.vandijk@han.nl	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• University of HAN - Institute of Social Sciences, based in Nijmegen, Holland, encourages students to think and act with an international perspective.</li> <li>• HAN provides quality higher education in an inspiring, international and innovative environment.</li> <li>• HAN were members of the Crossworker partnership.</li> </ul>
5	MuLab Cultural Association	<b>Vincenzo Pellegrini</b> email: info@mulab.it	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Based in Rome, Italy, MuLab operates within the independent creative industry sector, in education and the promotion and management of cultural and artistic events. Working particularly to promote the inclusion of disadvantaged groups at risk of exclusion, those suffering from social exclusion and those with disabilities, within the cultural sector.</li> <li>• Offers technical consulting in audio and video and professional training in the cultural sector. Artistic, technical and management consulting activities.</li> <li>• Provides experience of working internationally with skills in designing and delivering creative industry projects, including audio-visual, multimedia and events management. Active in contributing to the identification, accreditation and validation of learning routes from non-formal to formal learning.</li> </ul>
6	Prevista UK	<b>Richard Parkes</b> email: rickp@prevista.co.uk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prevista promotes innovation, excellence and achievement in three public policy areas: social, economic and cultural development throughout London, South East England, South West England, the East and West Midlands, and East of England.</li> <li>• Works in partnership with public sector organisations including Enterprise Agencies, Local Authorities, Business Links Colleges and Universities as well as private training providers and voluntary and community organisations to deliver our services.</li> </ul>
7	WAC Performing Arts and Media College	<b>Celia Greenwood</b> email: celia@wac.co.uk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The lead partner for STEP and based in London, WAC had worked for more than 30 years in the performing arts and creative industries with children and young people. Also offers a range of career and personal development projects for the eighteen-plus age group. The priority is to ensure that low income and disadvantaged young people can take part in the performing arts at all levels – from beginner through to professional level.</li> <li>• The STEP projects at WAC employ volunteers to work on various existing projects within WAC, including residential holiday projects for young people with learning difficulties and playschemes for the six to eleven age group. Whilst working the volunteers develop skills a range of independent living and technical skills that will help them in their future careers.</li> </ul>