

General Information

The Conference Organisers

Cedefop Conference team

Dates and venue

The Cedefop's conference 'Renewing vocational education and training to tackle skill mismatch: Workbased learning and apprenticeship for all?'

will take place on Wednesday 12 June 2013 (from 14:00) and Thursday 13 June 2013 (till 13:00)

at Cedefop's premises in Thessaloniki

123 Europe str., 57001 Pylea, Thessaloniki, Greece

Tel.: (+30) 2310 490 111

Postal address: PO Box 22427, Finikas, 55102 Thessaloniki, Greece

Map

Secretariat and information desk during the conference

The Secretariat desk will be located at the conference venue and will operate: Wednesday 12 June 2013, 13:00 – 20:00 Thursday, 13 June 2013, 09.00 - 14.00

Tel.: (+30) 2310490068

Interpretation

Interpretation will be provided during the conference from/to English, French, German and Greek.

Internet facilities

Two workstations with internet / e-mail access will be available for participants outside the conference room. WI-FI connection is also provided. Additional PCs will be available in Cedefop's library area.

Conference Registration

Online registration: please go to the relevant section of the conference website to register (http://events.cedefop.europa.eu/VET-conference-2013/en/registration)

Registration by email or fax: please download and fill in the attached word document and sent it by fax or email to LDK Consultants: VET-conference-2013@ldk.gr, +30 210 8196709. A confirmation will be sent to registered delegates in due time.

No registration fees apply for this event. It is up to each participant to bear travel, accommodation and subsistence costs.

Registered delegates will enjoy: conference material, welcome coffee, lunch and transportation between Cedefop and the hotels listed on the registration form.

Please note that there is a limited number of places available, which will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. We regret to inform you that once all places have been allocated, we will be unable to accept further request for participation. Therefore, you are kindly invited to register as soon as possible.

Hotel accommodation

Nikopolis Hotel ☆☆☆☆ - Pylaia (Cedefop area)

Single BB 95€, Double BB 105€

Hotel Nikopolis Thessaloniki is a 5 star Boutique City Resort, built in an area of 25.000 sqm. The Hotel is situated 3 km from "Makedonia" airport and 20 minutes from Thessaloniki's city centre. All rooms offer spectacular view at the pool or at the gardens, marble bathroom with separate shower and bathtub, LCD Flat Screen TV with satellite connection and Pay TV, individually controlled air-conditioning, soundproof windows, wireless and cable connection to the Internet, personal electronic safe box and mini bar. The visitors have free access to the following Aqua Club Spa services: art fitness centre, indoor heated pool, sauna, steam bath, jacuzzi, and outdoor pool of 1.700 sqm.

Address:

16-18 Asklipiou, Pylaia P.O. Box 60019

57001 Thermi, Thessaloniki

Tel.: +30 2310 401000, fax: +30 2310 401030 E-mail: <u>info.nikopolis@hotel-nikopolis.com</u>

http://www.hotel-nikopolis.com

Mediterranean Palace Hotel ☆☆☆☆- city centre

Single BB 95€, Double BB 105€

The Mediterranean Palace Hotel is a five - star hotel of ultimate hospitality for guests with high expectations. It is close to one of the most picturesque areas of the city called "Ladadika" and it has a magnificent view of the Thermaikos Bay.

The Mediterranean Palace displays the most beautiful characteristics of Thessaloniki; the live cosmopolitan atmosphere, the refined sense of peacefulness and the traditional warm hospitality. The style and the luxury, in combination with its strategic position in the heart of the commercial and business centre of the city, make the Mediterranean Palace an ideal destination.

Address:

3, Salaminos & Karatasou, 54626, Thessaloniki, Greece

Tel.: +30 2310 552.554 Fax: +30 2310 552.622

E-mail: <u>info@mediterranean-palace.gr</u> http://www.mediterranean-palace.gr

Makedonia Palace ☆☆☆☆- city centre

Single BB **85€** city view **or 105€** sea view Double BB **95€** city view **or 115€** sea view

Considered a local landmark, this legendary hotel rises at the edge of Thessaloniki's sweeping bay and is within walking distance from the ground of the Thessaloniki International Fair as well as the city's business and shopping districts. Inspired by the sparkle of the Ancient Greek Kingdom of Macedonia, the Makedonia Palace revives hospitality in a grand fashion. Makedonia Palace is 15 minutes from Cedefop and 15 km from Macedonia Airport.

Address:

Leoforos Megalou Alexandrou 2, 546 40 Thessaloniki Tel.: (+30) 2310 897197 Fax: (+30) 2310 897211

Email: groups@makedoniapalace.gr http://www.makedoniapalacehotel.com/ Panorama Hotel ☆☆☆☆

Single BB 50€ forest view or 60€ town view

Double BB: 60€ forest view or 70€ town view

Built on the lush green hill of Panorama, the most elegant of Thessaloniki's suburbs, the Hotel PANORAMA has a breathtaking view over the city and the Thermaic Gulf and provides its guests with family atmosphere, luxurious environment and a high standard service. Gaze out over the broad expanse of Thermaic Gulf. Journey to the slopes of Mount Olympus on the opposite shore and be enchanted by the wonderful sunsets. With 45 years of experience behind it, Hotel Panorama is a family business, which is constantly being modernized to meet the demands and challenges of today.

Address:

Analipseos 26 - 55236 Panorama, Thessaloniki, Greece

Tel.: +30-2310-344871 - Fax: +30-2310-344872

Email: info@hotelpanorama.gr
http://www.hotelpanorama.gr

All the above prices are per room / night and include breakfast, services and all taxes.

Hotel reservation procedure

To reserve a hotel, please complete the relevant section of the registration form. We kindly advise you to register and make a reservation as soon as possible **no later than 20 May 2013.**

Payment conditions

The hotel accommodation bill is to be paid by each participant directly to the hotel upon checking out. As for the applicable cancellation policy, please be advised that there will be no cancellation fee only if the written cancellation notice is received before 05 June 2013. Otherwise, if a cancellation notice is received after that deadline or in case of a no-show, one night of the total hotel accommodation fee will be charged by the hotel directly to your credit card details that you will have provided, upon request, directly to the hotel.

Thessaloniki

Set on the northern shores of the Thermaikos Gulf that opens into the Aegean Sea, Thessaloniki is approximately 550 kilometres north of Athens and in close proximity to Chalkidiki's beautiful beaches. It is one of Europe's oldest cities and the second largest city in Greece.

Founded in 316 BC by Cassander, King of Macedonia, the city was named after his wife, Thessaloniki, sister of Alexander the Great. It was here that Alexander the Great established the seat of his great Macedonian Empire, imparting a legacy that has left modern Thessaloniki dotted with the treasures, temples and monuments of one of history's greatest leaders.

Thessaloniki has the largest university in Greece, Aristotle University with about 95.000 students, which is one of the most established universities in the academic community in Europe.

The city of Thessaloniki today offers the visitor an exciting experience, as it possesses the second largest and most important port in Greece, the International Fair which attracts commercial interest from all over the world, offers cultural events, theatres, modern art galleries, libraries, some of the most exclusive stores in Greece, an immense variety of high standard recreational facilities and examples of modern architecture, art nouveau and eclecticism.

A few of the city's many attractions include the 16th century White Tower, many churches among which the Rotunda - a Roman monument converted into a church in the 4th century where one can admire beautiful mosaics - and the 8th century Agia Sofia which was converted into a mosque during Ottoman rule.

Useful information just before you arrive

Getting to Your Hotel from the Airport

Please kindly note that there will be **no welcome desk at the airport** upon your arrival. You are kindly requested to make your own arrangements from the airport to your hotel.

There is a bus service operating 24 hours a day that links "Macedonia" Airport of Thessaloniki to the city centre. You should take bus number 78 and it takes approximately 40 minutes to get to the city centre depending on traffic. The ticket costs 0.80€ and can be bought at a ticket booth outside the airport with limited opening hours, kiosks, or at the ticket machine in the bus (0.90€, small change will be needed if you are to buy the ticket in the bus).

There is also taxi service outside the Arrivals hall of "Macedonia" Airport of Thessaloniki. Taxis take approximately 20 minutes to reach city centre depending on traffic. The tariff ranges from 15€– 22 €.

"MACEDONIA" airport (http://www.thessaloniki-airport.com/)

The airport is located 13 Km east from the city of Thessaloniki in the region "Micra" and in the Thermi Municipality.

Companies with direct flights to Thessaloniki's airport are:

- Aegean Airlines (http://www.aegeanair.com)
- Air Berlin (http://www.airberlin.com)
- Alitalia (http://www.alitalia.it)
- Austrian Airlines (http://www.aua.com)
- British Airlines (http://www.britishairways.com)
- Cyprus Airlines (http://www.cyprusairlines.com)
- Easy Jet (http://www.easyjet.com)
- Germanwings (http://www.germanwings.com)
- Hamburg International (http://www.hamburg-international.de)
- http://www.jat.com/active/en/home.html
- ➤ LOT (http://www.lot.com)
- Lufthansa (http://www.lufthansa.com)
- Olympic Airlines (http://www.olympicair.com)
- Ryanair (http://www.ryanair.com/en)
- SkyWork Airlines (http://www.flyskywork.com/en)
- Swiss (http://www.swiss.com)
- > Tarom (http://www.tarom.ro)
- TUlfly (http://www.tuifly.com)
- Wizz Air Hungary Airlines (http://wizzair.com)

Transfers

Hotel - Cedefop and return

From all the four pre-selected hotels listed above (see section: 'Hotel accommodation'), bus transfers from and to Cedefop will be provided in line with the conference programme.

Delegates who stay in other hotels than the four pre-selected ones and wish to benefit from the bus transfers, should go to one of the pick-up points at the pre-selected hotels. (transportation programme will be provided to all registered participants in due time).

If you would prefer to use your own means of transportation to Cedefop please consult the next entry (Find your way to Cedefop).

Find your way to Cedefop:

To access Cedefop by **bus** from the **city centre**: please take Bus No 2, 8 or 31 till Boulgari bus terminus. From there please take the bus 36 to Cedefop (approx. duration 15 to 25 minutes). To access Cedefop by **bus** from **the East side of the city** (Kalamaria, Peraia etc.): please take the bus Nr 36 from IKEA to Cedefop. Detailed timetables are available at the Organisation of Urban transportation of Thessaloniki (OASTH) site at the following link.

To access Cedefop by car from the City Centre: map

Cedefop is easy to access by **taxi** within maximum 30 minutes from any part of the city, the city's suburbs and about 10 minutes from the airport. A taxi will cost 15-20€ depending on the distance. Should you wish to order a radio taxi, please call one of the following numbers: (+30) 2310525000, 2310866866 and make your appointment. In general, taxis are easy to find, at the airport and all over the city; taxis are blue-white and easy to stop in the street. Please don't be surprised if other passengers are picked up along the way to your destination.

Time

Greece is 2 hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT +2) throughout the year.

Language

Greek is the official language but English is widely spoken.

Currency

The Greek currency is EURO. Credit cards are widely used in most establishments. Most currencies and traveller's cheques can easily be changed either at banks, hotels or moneychangers with some handling charges.

Weather in June

Thessaloniki lies in the transitional climatic zone, so its climate has displayed characteristics of continental as well as Mediterranean climate. Average temperatures in June range from 17C° to 29 C°.

Power supply

The standard current in Greece is 220 volts. Plugs are European standard with two round pins.

People & Life

Thessaloniki is a popular destination. You will certainly enjoy a pleasant and interesting stay in the city. People are friendly and happy to help with any questions. The atmosphere is unique during the day in the commercial and shopping centre, but especially during the evening, in the wide variety of bars, restaurants and theatres for entertainment.

Liability

Cedefop & LDK Consultants act as an agent of the event only in securing hotels, transport and travel services and on no condition shall be liable for acts or defaults in case of injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity of any kind whatsoever during arrangements organised through contractors or the employees of such contractors in carrying out services. Hotel and transportation services are subject to the terms and conditions under which they are offered to the public in general. The Host Committee reserves the right to make changes, where deemed necessary, without prior notice to parties concerned. All disputes are subject to the Greek Law.

Useful web sites

Conference organisers: http://www.cedefop.europa.eu

Conference web-site: http://events.cedefop.europa.eu/VET-conference-2013

Information on Greece as a travel destination: http://www.visitgreece.gr

Thessaloniki: http://www.saloniki.org; http://www.thessalonikicity.gr/; http://www.tcvb.gr

Weather in Thessaloniki: http://weather.yahoo.com

Thessaloniki's Urban Mobility Center (a suite of e-mobility services aiming to provide optimal routing, traveller information and sustainable mobility and environmental protection awareness services) http://www.mobithess.gr



What to see

Thessaloniki is host to an impressive array of museums, cultural organizations, archaeological sites and monuments. A list includes:

MONUMENTS & CHURCHES

- Agia Ekaterini church
- Agia Sofia church (Agias Sofias street)
- Agii Apostoli church
- Agios Demetrios church
- Agios Nikolaos Orfanos
- The Ahiropiitos
- The Arch of Galerius (Kamara)
- The Crypt (Agios Demetrios church)
- The Old Walls
- Ossios David or the Latomos Monastery (Upper Town)
- The Panagia ton Chalkeon church
- Profitis Elias
- The Rotonda (D. Gounari str)
- Vlatadon Monastery (Upper Town)
- The White Tower (seafront avenue)

MUSEUMS & GALLERIES

- <u>Thessaloniki Archaeological Museum</u>
- The Museum of Byzantine Culture
- State Museum of Contemporary Art, Thessaloniki
- State Gallery of Art
- Thessaloniki Museum of Photography
- Museum of Cinematography in Thessaloniki
- Thessaloniki Technology Park
- Folk Art and Ethnological Museum of Macedonia and Thrace
- Directory of museums beyond Thessaloniki
- Vergina

What and where to eat

For a morning or late-night snack, try bougatsa pies with cream (sweet) or cheese (savory) filling.

Meat eaters can try out soutzoukakia: minced meat pellets either grilled (at the central market or rotisseries) or in tomato and cumin sauce.

Go for a meal in one of the many downtown ouzo restaurants (ouzeri) and accompany your drink with lots of small dishes - by far the best way to eat in Thessaloniki.

The areas that concentrate most of the city's well-known restaurants are:

- Navarinou Square
- Athonos Square (between the Church of Aghia Sophia, or Church of the Holy Wisdom, and Aristotelous Square)
- Ladadika area
- Ano Poli (on the hill where you see the remains of the castle, visible from the White Tower)

For something quicker, you can taste the special crepes from many different places at Gounari Street, next to Navarinou Square. Also "Goody's" is the Greek fast food restaurant chain. You will find here classic hamburgers, pasta, salads, etc.

Useful phones

Police* 100
Ambulance* 166
Fire* 199
Emergency phone** 112
Phone book information* 11888

Tourist police station (+30) 2310554870, (+30) 2310554871

Conference Secretariat

For any further organisational information please contact the Conference Secretariat at:

LDK Consultants Engineers and Planners Ltd.

Off. 21 Thivaidos Str.

P.O. Box 51299, 14564 Kifissia, Greece

Tel: (+30) 2108196752 (Conference line), (+30) 2108196700

Fax: (+30) 2108196709

e-mail: VET-conference-2013@ldk.gr

Please ask for: Mr. John Panayiotopoulos, Project Manager

Ms. Athina Ignatieva, Project Coordinator

We look forward to welcoming you at the conference!

^{*}It refers to a local number and can be used only from a local phone.

^{**}It refers to a European number. After a recorded message in English and Greek, an operator receives the call in English, French or Greek, puts the caller through to the necessary service, and assists with interpretation, if necessary.