



The Launch of the Erasmus+ Pprogram in Yerevan

The launch event of the Improvet_AM Capacity Building project, implemented within the framework of the Erasmus+ program, took place in Yerevan. During the event, the project participants presented its objectives and expected outcomes. Representatives from SEPR (Rhône Professional Training Center) in Lyon, France, and Apro Formazione Training Center from Alba, Italy, attended the event. The event was attended by Araksia



Svajyan, Deputy Minister of Education, Science, Culture, and Sports of Armenia, Ruben Sargsyan, Deputy Minister of Labor and Social Affairs, Deputy Head of EUDEL Armenia Jan Plesinger, Lana Karlova, Coordinator of the Erasmus+ National Office in Armenia, and representatives from VET and other sectors. Deputy Minister Araksia Svajyan welcomed the participants and emphasized the importance of the program's implementation in the

vocational education sector, calling it one of the best ways to develop capacities.

Erasmus+ Meetings Continued



Within the framework of the Erasmus+ Improvet_AM program, French, Italian, and Armenian partners visited HovakimyaLab, Avanta Clinics, SZ Pharma dental technical laboratories, and the "Victory" 24-hour care center of the Ministry of Health. They held focus group meetings and had productive discussions.

On March 20th-21st, they visited Gyumri State Medical College and the City of Gyumri. They conducted study visits to dental laboratories and care centers. It should be noted that the capacity-building program focuses on the digitalization of the "Dental Technology" profession, the introduction of healthcare personal assistants as a specialization in elderly care centers, and career guidance.

Valuable knowledge from Italy to Armenia



Gohar Grigoryan, Director of the French-Armenian Vocational Education Center (CEPFA), was in Alba, Italy, from 13th to 17th May, 2024, at the APRO Formazione training center. During the meetings held within the framework of the Erasmus+ IMPROVET_AM program, they discussed issues related to both students' career guidance and the healthcare sector. Visits to Veruno Hospital, Talent City, Cillario Training Center, and the Emmaus Social Cooperative were an exceptional opportunity to bring Italy's experience to Armenia. The program also included discussions on the employment of people with disabilities, career guidance for adults, as well as an introduction to the programs and funding strategy of APRO Formazione.



Joining Efforts to Achieve Excellence in the VET Sector



From May 21st to 23rd, the European Training Foundation (ETF) Quality Assurance Forum for Vocational Education and Training (VET) took place, with a focus on issues such as how students become professionals in college, how are the professional skills developed through evaluation?, and how employers are involved in this process. Within the framework of the event "Ensuring the Quality of Formative Assessment for Employment," CEPFA had the honor of hosting ETF experts and representatives of the National Center for Professional Education Quality Assurance (ANQA). In order to explore the role of formative assessment and employers in shaping students' skills, the experts held professional discussions with students, lecturers, employers, college directors, and deputy directors.

CEPFA is Among the Top Four

Easter: Culinary Mosaic team with its 14 first and second-year students from the culinary and pastry departments, partici-

pated in the "Sustainable Events Competition 2024." It was focused on national cuisine and culture. Representatives from ACFOA, whom CEPFA has an interesting cooperation with, arrived from Marseille and actively participated in the event. In the first round of the competition, future chefs presented a short video showcasing Yerevan's cultural and national characteristics, followed by demonstration of Easter celebration. The students and the guests from France prepared Easter dishes together, dyed eggs with onion skin, made pilaf and gata, and shared their experience of making zhingyalov hats. The dishes were tasted at a picnic, followed by a game on national cuisine created by CEPFA students. The themes of waste recycling and energy conservation were also addressed.

Our team reached the top four in the competition. The winner will be announced soon, at the EfVET annual conference in the Netherlands.

On the Way to World Skills International 2024



Mira Nersisyan, a 3rd-year student from the tailoring department, together with her VET teachers Knarik Vardanyan and

Sona Voskanian, went to France in April and June for training and experience exchange getting ready to WorldSkills International 2024. At the SEPR vocational training center in Lyon, they spent over a week working, gaining valuable experience that helped Mira at the competition. Besides, they made cultural visits, visited Armenian Consulate with SEPR



representatives. It is worth mentioning that Mira Nersisyan was recognized as the winner of WorldSkills Armenia in the "Fashion Technology" category and will be participating in the WorldSkills International 2024 in Lyon from September 10-15, 2024.

Young Chef of Armenia 2024 competition

CEPFA held a competition for the 2nd and 3rd-year students of the "Culinary" department and



selected the best six to take part in another "Young Chef of Armenia 2024" competition. The competition was initiated by the Armenian Chefs Association, it took place in CEPFA. The battle was intense and the victory went to CEPFA's 2nd-year student Milena Adamyan. During the final round of the competition, which was held during the "Yerevan Wine Days" festival, Milena Adamyan won the 2nd place. Many professional achievements will await Milena in the future.

Education and Career Expo 2024



The 23rd annual "Education and Career Expo 2024," was aimed at providing comprehensive information to schoolchildren and students about various fields of education and the most in-demand professions in the labor market. The Expo showcased the education through thematic sections including universities, colleges, schools, training centers, and international donor organizations. Each institution had its own exhibition booth. Over the

three days, CEPFA's booth was the center of attraction for applicants and students. Visitors received detailed information about the admission process, professions, student life, discount systems, and more. The atmosphere was positive and pleasant. Visitors were shown videos, given notebooks with CEPFA's logo and took photos at the booth.

Career City Fest 2K24

This year, CEPFA again participated in the annual Career City Fest, the first and only career city in the region. For two days, thousands of people and hundreds of companies had the opportunity to meet, exchange ideas, create new and valuable collaborations, and enjoy their time together. There were three major platforms, CEPFA was part of the Development Zone, which featured various thematic seminars: IT, design, marketing, and arts. Interactive seminars allowed participants to meet with experts and ask them pressing questions and receive answers on the spot.



Open Doors at Holiday Inn Hotel

Holiday Inn Express Yerevan held an Open Doors Day event. Students from "Culinary"

department with their career counselor Anush Stepanyan, and VET teachers Elena Marutyan and Gayane Simonyan visited the hotel. They had the opportunity to make a tour of the hotel and learn about the current job vacancies. Such meetings are informative, they provide answers to numerous job-related questions and are opportunities for future collaboration.



Francophonie Days 2024

Armenia celebrated International Francophonie Day with the francophone family. CEPFA students attended a concert dedicated to the occasion at the Komitas Chamber Music House, organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of the Republic of Armenia. This concert marked the official launch of the Francophonie Month in Armenia. The Francophonie Month was significant as it was accompanied by the important decision to host the 10th



Francophonie International Sports and Cultural Games in Armenia in 2027. The program of the Francophonie Month included several events dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the French-Armenian singer-songwriter Charles Aznavour. The anniversary is included in UNESCO's Calendar of Anniversaries of Famous People and Important Events for 2024-2025.

The Mayor of Villeurbanne was at CEPFA



The Mayor of Villeurbanne, France, Mr. Cédric Van Styvendael, led a delegation that visited Armenia. The delegation was welcomed in CEPFA. They were shown around the college and saw its educational environment. The delegation's visit coincided with a beautiful event organized by the team of tailors for the Francophonie Month. It was a demonstration of a stunning collection "Spring in Lyon". The guests enjoyed the fashion show when students demonstrated their handmade clothes.



Women from Artsakh as Future Chefs, Pastry Chefs, Tailors, and Hairdressers

CEPFA held trainings for 15 women from Artsakh in collaboration with the Embassy of France and the Women's Support Center. During the six-week course, the trainees participated in classes and learned cooking and baking technology. Our experts, Arusyak Grigoryan and Emma Kocharyan, shared their professional knowledge, taught the importance of balance between quality, taste, and plate presentation. The sounds of sewing machines filled the tailor's lab, as the master Knarik Vardanyan shared sewing secrets with another group of women from Artsakh, constantly motivating them by her own example. Another group of women learned hairstyling techniques from Gohar Poladyan and Marine Hovhannisyanyan.



Cheese and Wine Pairing

The 3rd year students from "Culinary" department and their teacher Arusyak Grigoryan held a peer observation lesson within the frame of "Restaurant Service" module. The topic was

"Cheese and Wine Pairing." The theory was performed and illustrated by videos, various types of wine and cheese and service rules. In the practical part, the students demonstrated how to pair wine and cheese, and serve it. The students touched upon an upcycling issue and presented the audience with beautiful souvenirs made of wine corks.



Parajanov Spirit at CEPFA

This year celebrates the 100th anniversary of the genius of cinema, Sergei Parajanov. The numerous celebrations dedicated to this cinema master were held in Armenia and abroad, particularly in Georgia and France. CEPFA was no exception. The 2nd year students from the Tailor's department arranged an event presenting the great master's art and creative journey, important moments from his life, materials from the filmmaker's archive, valuable photographs, letters, screenplays, autographs, and newspaper articles. At the end, the students presented a unique hand-crafted exhibition in Parajanov colors.

My Perception of Hamo Sahyan

In 2024, Armenia celebrates the 110th anniversary of Hamo Sahyan, a brilliant Armenian



poet. The teacher of Armenian Literature Amalia Baghyan initiated a poetry event. Students recited Sahyan's poetry, focusing on themes of homeland, nature, and love. They performed the humanistic essence of his work, pairing it with beautiful musical pieces.

Election of the new president of the Student Council

CEPFA recently held an extended meeting of the Student Council (SC), dedicated to the election of its new president. Following the vote, Catherine Tatosyan, a student in Pastry, was elected president of the SC with a large majority of votes. Vahé Grigoryan, also a student in Pastry, was elected vice-president, while Milena Ter-Karapetyan, a student in Couture, was appointed secre-



tary. These new elections mark a significant moment for student representation and the dynamism of CEPFA.

A Lesson from an Employer

Sargis Hovakimyan, the director of HovakimyanLab dental laboratory led a lesson for the second-year students in Dental Technology. During the master class, S. Hovakimyan and the students worked together on teeth modeling. The materials for their work were provided by German companies Renfert Dental and SZ Pharma.



The Memorable Moment

The recent graduates have been guided by CEPFA towards a new life. Tears and laughter merged with the ringing of the final bell, awakening the college memories. The director of the Center, Gohar Grigoryan, congratulated the graduates, teachers, and parents, as well as those who

completed this important stage of their education. They have already chosen their future professions. We hope that the knowledge and skills acquired during the three years of study will make them competitive in the modern labor market, help them become masters of their craft, and guarantee the development of our homeland.



Erasmus+ Project Kick-Off Day 2024

The Erasmus+ Project kick-off event occurred on June 20th at the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture, and Sport of Armenia. The event's purpose was to present the main goals and expected outcomes of the projects implemented by universities and VET institutions that received grants in 2023. One of the speakers at the event was the director of CEPFA Gohar Grigoryan. It is worth mentioning that CEPFA is part of the Erasmus+ IMPROVET-AM project.

