



CEPFA Students' Adventures in Marseille



This summer marked a significant and dynamic experience for a group of CEPFA students, who traveled to Marseille, France, within the framework of cooperation with ACFOA Septèmes-Les-Vallons. The visit was part of a comprehensive educational and cultural program aimed at expanding students' professional knowledge and international exposure.

The program began with introductory meetings, discussions of objectives and guidelines, a tour of the town of Septèmes-Les-Vallons, and a meeting with representatives of the Commu-



nity Committee for Forest Fire Prevention. A highlight of the visit was the long-awaited meeting with French partners who had previously supported the opening of a pétanque court at CEPFA and contributed to the introduction of pétanque as a sport at the institution.

Throughout the program, students were introduced to modern approaches to sustainable development and water management. At the Septèmes-Les-Vallons City Hall, members of the municipal



council presented the municipality's sustainable development strategy. Participants also explored waste management and biogas processing systems, learned about silvopastoral practices that support forest conservation and fire prevention, and observed waste collection and recycling processes at Lemon Tri Insertion.

As part of the program, the students visited the waste recycling center in Toulon and met with representatives of the Clean My Calanques organization, gaining

insight into coastal protection initiatives and ongoing environmental projects.

This international experience provided CEPFA students with valuable practical knowledge, strengthened cross-cultural cooperation, and reinforced the importance of sustainable development and environmental responsibility.

Hiking Guide Training Program: from France to Armenia

Within the framework of the "Arahat Armenia" program, CEPFA Director Gohar Grigoryan, Deputy Pedagogical Director Yelena Martirosyan, and the program's national coordinator Nazik Mashuryan, together with local partners, visited France to take part in a preparatory seminar for the introduction of a training program for professional hiking guides in Armenia.

During meetings and study visits held in Autrans, Chambéry, and Chamonix, participants had the



opportunity to explore the French ecosystem of nature- and sport-related professions, as well as best practices in institutional organization and implementation. The delegation studied the activities of AFRAT (French Association for the Training of Rural Populations in Tourism Activities), along with the program's methodology and training approaches.

As a result of the visit, a shared vision was formed for the establishment of a national-level system for a hiking guide training in Ar-



menia. Discussions focused on the program's progress, achievements, and upcoming steps, with the aim of increasing the initiative's effectiveness, strengthening Armenian–French cooperation, and further developing international partnerships in the field of hiking and mountain tourism.

Armenian Delegation Visits SEPR in Lyon

Within the framework of Armenia–France decentralized cooperation, representatives of local self-government bodies of the Republic of Armenia, along with representatives of the UNDP offices in Armenia and Geneva, were in Lyon in the context of a program aimed at addressing the needs of forcibly displaced persons from Nagorno-Karabakh. During the visit to France, the



delegation visited the SEPR campus in Lyon, where they were introduced to the institution's activities and the long-standing partnership between CEPFA and SEPR. The meeting was also attended by representatives of CEPFA, led by Director Gohar Grigoryan, as well as Tigran Tadevosyan, Director of the Lori Regional State College, who were in Lyon on a working visit.

The visit provided an opportunity to strengthen institutional ties, exchange experience, and explore further ways for cooperation within the framework of Armenian–French decentralized partnership and joint initiatives in vocational education and social support programs.

Special Training Course: French Experience



Within the framework of the Erasmus+ IMPROVET-AM program, CEPFA hosted Marie-Laure Durand, Head of the Resource Center for Inclusion at the SEPR campus in Lyon.

On October 8–9, Ms. Durand delivered a two-day training course for CEPFA's teaching and administrative staff, focusing on identifying the needs of learners with special educational needs within the educational process,



inclusive education mechanisms, and the promotion of active participation.

The training was conducted in an atmosphere of active discussion, professional exchange, and sharing of valuable experience, resulting in a highly effective and informative learning opportunity for all participants.

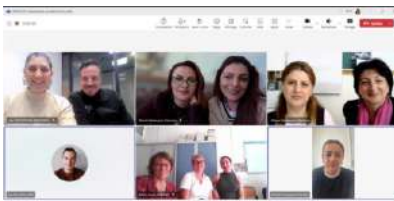
Residents of Yaghdan Receive Certificates

CEPFA Director Gohar Grigoryan awarded graduation certificates to participants of the pastry-making training course in the village of Yaghdan, Lori Region. During the course, Yaghdan residents acquired practical pastry skills under the guidance of Arusyak Grigoryan. Mrs Grigoryan



is a practical training instructor in the “Culinary Arts” and “Pastry” programs at CEPFA. The training contributed to the development of participants' professional competencies and the creation of new employment opportunities.

Quality of Education in Focus



Within the framework of the Erasmus+ IMPROVET-AM program, an online training session was organized for CEPFA academic coordinators, focusing on the enhancement of teaching skills.

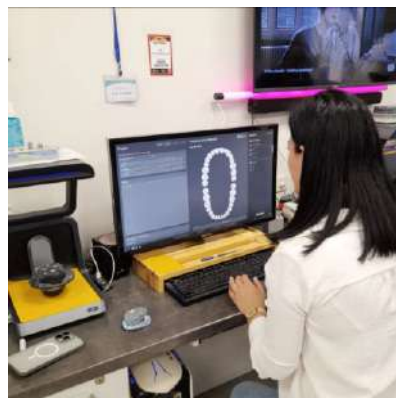
The training aimed to strengthen educators' pedagogical competencies, contributing to improved quality and effectiveness of instruction. The session was delivered by Aurélien Boulard, Head of Pedagogical Engineering at the SEPR campus in Lyon.

Laboratory-Based Training for CEPFA



Within the framework of the Erasmus+ IMPROVET-AM program, on October 8–9, CEPFA instructors of the “Dental Technology” department L. Papyan and E. Sargsyan, participated in a professional training at the dental laboratory “Hovakimyan Lab,” an IMPROVET-AM partner and an employer cooperating with CEPFA. The Gyumri State Medical College, as an another IMPROVET-AM partner, participated to the training as well. The sessions were led by Anne-Laure Grillet, Head of the Dental Technology Department at the SEPR campus in Lyon, who visited CEPFA within the framework of the program to support experience exchange, conduct benchmarking of educational programs, and contribute to the development of new training modules.

The training included hands-on laboratory sessions on the fol-



lowing topics: 3D modeling of full zirconia crowns, fabrication of press ceramic crowns, and veneering of zirconia crowns with liquid ceramic.

This laboratory-based training contributed to the further development of instructors' professional skills and the modernization of educational programs in line with current industry standards.

A New Phase in the Development of Hiking Tourism



One more group of professionals successfully completed the training course for hiking guides conducted within the framework of the “ArahatArmenia” program.

The course was led by Lionel Confort, a senior mountain guide and instructor at the AFRAT Training Center. Over the course of 90 hours, participants studied a wide range of professional topics, including group leadership, safety and first aid, meteorology, pedagogy and psychology, as well as survival and rescue skills in snowy terrain.

This milestone marks a new phase in the development of hiking tourism in Armenia, equipping participants with the skills and knowledge needed to guide safe and educational trekking experiences.

