

## **LADAPT's Supported Apprenticeship Scheme is moving to Europe!**

*For the next 3 years, a consortium of 7 European partners will be trained in LADAPT's Supported Apprenticeship Scheme for people with disabilities. Spotlight on the SAS Project!*

### **What is the Supported Apprenticeship Scheme?**

Initiated by LADAPT West, the Supported Apprenticeship Scheme aims to develop access to training leading to qualifications for people with disabilities and to secure their pathway to sustainable employment. The scheme is complementary to ordinary apprenticeship contracts. It provides support to the apprentice, as well as to the training centre and the hosting company. Each year, around 400 people benefit from this scheme in the four regions of Brittany.

### **The SAS Project**

Developed and structured by LADAPT, the SAS project aims to train 7 partners in 6 European countries (Norway, Belgium, Spain, Italy, Greece and Bulgaria) in the Supported Apprenticeship Scheme.

Different project results will be developed throughout the project. A European report analysis on apprenticeship for people with disabilities will be drafted and LADAPT's guide to the Supported Apprenticeship Scheme will be adapted to the context of each participating country. In addition, a European training module for Vocational Integration Counsellors will be developed, and policy recommendations will be formulated targeting national and European authorities for a better implementation of Supported Apprenticeship in Europe.

### **A step-by-step approach**

Since beginning of 2022, the work has started! The European partners visited LADAPT's headquarters to follow a 2-day training on the Supported Apprenticeship Scheme and a first transnational partners meeting was held in Bulgaria. Our Greek partner, Theotokos Foundation, testified about this inspiring experience: *"From the beginning, our interest in participating in the SAS project was to have the opportunity to be trained in good practices and to get to know the tools used by LADAPT, an organisation with many years of experience, which is a pioneer in the field of supported apprenticeships.*

*At the transnational meeting in Varna we had the opportunity to review the training we received in Paris, to familiarize ourselves with the methodology and tools and to prepare for the practical implementation of supported apprenticeships in our countries. For us it is really a challenge and an opportunity to design new paths for the vocational rehabilitation of young people with disabilities."*

Until 2024, 14 European Vocational Integration Counsellors will support 28 apprentices with disabilities and each VIC will keep a logbook which will then be analysed to produce the different project results. Several face-to-face and virtual meetings will mark out the project until September 2024, with a peer learning workshop for informal capacity building based on the experience of each VIC. All of this will allow for the expansion of the Supported Apprenticeship Scheme on a European level.

More > <https://www.epr.eu/supported-apprenticeship-scheme-sas/>