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# Counselling - Italy

## 1. Current Situation resp. reform approaches in the field of vocational guidance and counselling

### Reform on paper

For a long time institutionalised vocational counselling only exists on paper in Italy. Though vocational counselling always was one of the tasks of employment agencies, it was hardly put into practice. Instead, they restricted themselves to the administrative support of unemployed persons. This pertains also to regions that do not suffer from extreme joblessness, like the South of Italy. Various agencies in the field of vocational training proactively introduced vocational counselling which, however, was/is mainly focussed on their own vocational training measures.

The reform of employment administration in 1999 implicated the subordination of employment agencies to the regions. Day-to-day matters including vocational counselling were assigned to the provinces. Decisions on methods and benchmarks of vocational training depend entirely on their significance for the provinces. In fact vocational counselling still is a foreign word for many provinces even 5 years after the reform of employment administration. Only the larger centres show basic approaches that are, however, very low in absolute numbers (e.g. staff of employment agency Florence spends only 4 % of their working hours for counselling service). One reason is that staff did not get any training in vocational counselling, another reason is the minor relevance the employment agency has for persons searching advice. After all only 5 from 100 persons are placed in a job via the employment agency.

Vocational counselling in the broader sense is offered by secondary schools and the local educational authorities of the provinces. Meanwhile many schools offer practical training to achieve a linkage of education and work. In this context a more comprehensive consultancy is offered. Advisory and placement support is generally offered at university level.

### Trend towards privatisation and decentralisation of vocational counselling

Some regions and provinces went over to source out vocational counselling as a new service product to private agencies, e.g. in Lombardy. Others work with free-lance staff or affiliate private agencies. Moreover, information on training facilities are increasingly spread via internet portals trying to improve the general survey on the courses offered. This trend is also activated by the Law 30/2003 enabling many different organizations like universities, town councils, trade unions or employers associations to act as placement offices. Thus private organizations which as yet confined themselves to offer counselling services will gain in importance.

### International mobility

Up to now international mobility only plays a minor role. Actors are EURES counsellors, semi-public institutions like the Centro Risorse or the youth information offices Informagiovani, which engage themselves in the field of employees and training matters abroad.

## 2. Organizations offering counselling on vocational guidance for the crafts sector

Area	Institution	Type of counselling	Counselling	Special target groups
<b>State-run employment administration</b>	Centro per l'impiego (CPI) <i>organized on province level and subordinated to a regional centre being responsible for strategy and policy</i>	on paper: all types, in fact: administrative support of unemployed persons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• one-on-one interviews (phone, face-to-face)</li> <li>• group counselling</li> <li>• fairs</li> <li>• information days at schools</li> <li>• Workshops on various topics</li> </ul>	all target groups
<b>School facilities</b>	many schools have a teacher or psychologist for advising pupils being 14 years and older	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• vocational counselling, aptitude test, applicant training</li> <li>• visit of enterprises;</li> <li>• internship supervision;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• one-on-one interviews (face-to-face);</li> <li>• group counselling;</li> <li>• participation at fairs ;</li> <li>• Information day;</li> <li>• Workshops on various topics;</li> <li>• internship supervision;</li> </ul>	for own pupils and other interested persons
<b>Economic associations and organizations</b>	Sportello di Orientamento E-Labor ( <i>decentralized employment service at economic associations and trade unions together with employment office</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• counselling and data entry to a regional database on job-seeking, database will be extended to whole Italy</li> <li>• Matching and formal employment service (at present by employment office, will be decentralized in the future)</li> <li>• training for application and for editing CVs;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• one-on-one interviews (phone, face-to-face)</li> <li>• group counselling;</li> <li>• fairs;</li> <li>• information days at schools;</li> <li>• workshops on various topics</li> </ul>	in the future: all target groups; presently, specialized <b>to problem groups</b> of the labour market (emigrants, women returning to work, handicapped persons)
	Sportello Stage – <i>local organization of chambers of crafts or economic associations procuring internships</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• counselling on internships;</li> <li>• procurement of internships</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• one-on-one interviews (phone, face-to-face);</li> <li>• group counselling;</li> <li>• fairs;</li> <li>• information days at schools;</li> <li>• workshops on relevant topics</li> </ul>	pupils and students

Area	Institution	Type of counselling	Counselling	Special target groups
Other organizations	Informagiovani <i>(approx. 800 youth information centres, placed at municipalities)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• occupational and career counselling</li> <li>• training for application and for editing CVs;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• one-on-one interviews (phone, face-to-face);</li> <li>• group counselling;</li> <li>• fairs;</li> <li>• information days at schools;</li> <li>• workshops on relevant topics</li> </ul>	all target groups
	ACLI – Azione cattolica dei lavoratori italiani  ENAIP – educational institute of ACLI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• career and employment counselling,</li> <li>• training for application and for editing CVs;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• one-on-one interviews (phone, face-to-face);</li> <li>• group counselling;</li> <li>• fairs;</li> <li>• information days at schools;</li> <li>• workshops on relevant topics</li> <li>• carries out training courses over several months (ESF) usually comprising a counselling module</li> </ul>	members of association  pupils
	the priest	informal counselling and transfer of information that only the priest gets from enterprises	one-to-one interview	parishioners

### 3. Craftspeople going abroad

**LEONARDO DA VINCI:** The crafts association Confederazione Nazionale dell'Artigianato (CNA) funds approx. 30-40 scholarships for all trades. The second crafts association (Associazione Artigiani) carries out exchanges of apprentices. Moreover, some vocational schools send their pupils abroad for a short period to realize an internship (to some extent with help of LEONARDO, often, however, with own resources in the framework of a school partnership).

More mobility can be observed on the first labour market. There are many craftspeople having worked or presently working abroad. This is applicable e.g. for the building sector, where complete groups of construction workers work at building sites abroad for a long time. Machine exporting enterprises from Northern Italy also send their construction troops abroad. Moreover, many carpenters equip restaurants, cafés and ice cream parlours abroad and send therefore their personnel from Italy.

### 4. Information sources for crafts sector on vocational training and employment chances abroad

Source of information	Kind of information
Crafts association Conferazione Nazionale dell'Artigianto (CNA) <a href="http://www.cna.it">www.cna.it</a>	Leonardo da Vinci – Scholarships for all crafts professions (target country depends on scholarship holder);
<a href="http://www.euroinfopmi.org/">http://www.euroinfopmi.org/</a> Euro-Info-Centre of Crafts Associations CNA and Confartigianato;	Information for enterprises intending to operate within the European Union
Eures Counsellor	Depends on specialization and expertise of counsellor
<a href="http://www.informagiovani">www.informagiovani</a> <a href="http://www.eurocultura.it">www.eurocultura.it</a>	Motivation and precondition for employment abroad, contact points abroad and in Italy, FAQs, newsletter "International Mobility", guidebook on employment abroad
<a href="http://www.centrorisorse.org">www.centrorisorse.org</a>	Motivation and precondition for employment abroad, contact points abroad and in Italy, practical assistance, online guidebook, forum
<a href="http://www.minwelfare.gov.it/europalavoro">www.minwelfare.gov.it/europalavoro</a> .  <a href="http://www.eurodesk.it">www.eurodesk.it</a>	Ministry for Labour and Social Questions, Training courses in Italy (ESF and regional services), linked with all regions and foreign countries, no direct information on foreign countries Italian network by EURODESK informing on EU and questions regarding young adults, like education, profession, tourism etc.
<a href="http://www.cittadellascienza.it">www.cittadellascienza.it</a>	
<a href="http://www.comune.torino.it/informagiovani">www.comune.torino.it/informagiovani</a>	Broad collection on working and studying abroad, no specific support to craftspeople

## 5. Potential users of MOBILINT training modules

**Vocational training schools** (Centro di formazione professionale CFP); senior classes with polytechnical training and university-entrance diploma (Istituto tecnico), schools offering special training over one or two years after this diploma. Teachers of technical classes and especially teachers being in charge of vocational counselling at these schools.

**Technical universities**  
with 3-year study (Bachelor) or post-graduate studies

**Employment office** Centro per l'impiego CPI;  
E-Labor: decentralized institutions of employment counselling

**Youth information offices** Informagiovani IG (approx. 800 in whole Italy)

**Economic associations and trade unions;** economic promotion consortia (e.g. restoration of stones or ceramics): placed at economic associations or chambers of trade

**CNA** (association of craftspeople) on provincial or regional level