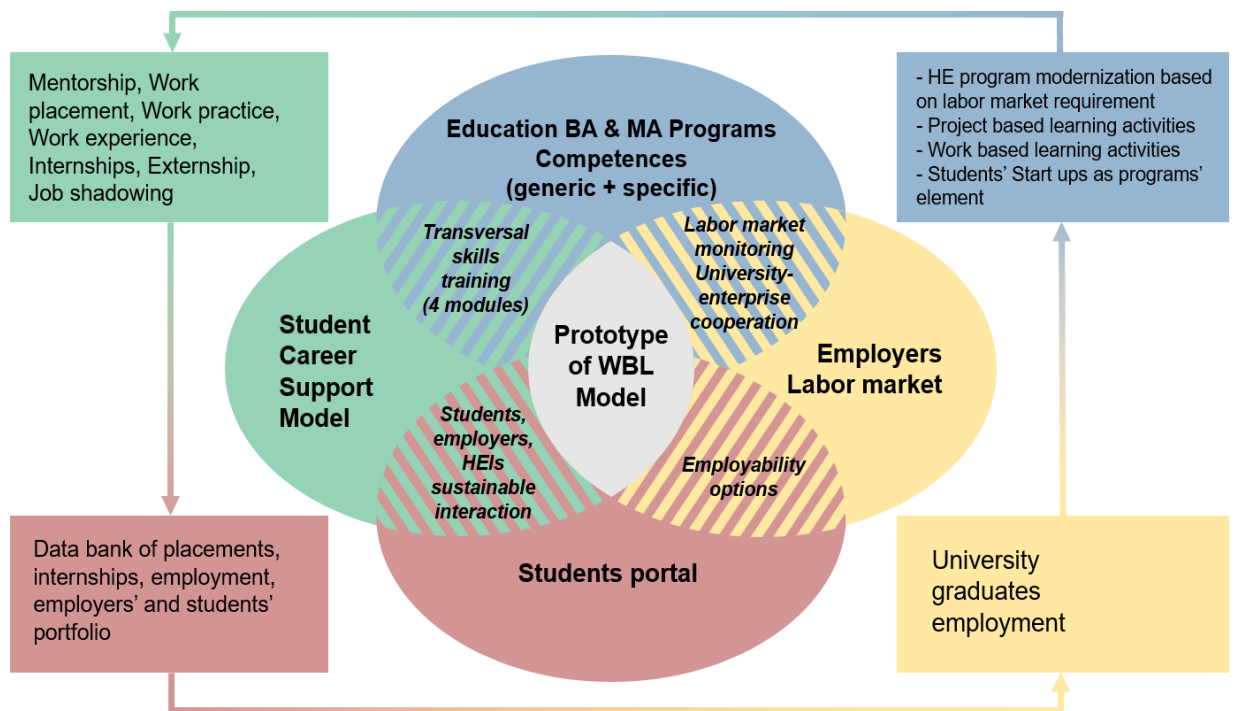


Further Development and Transition to WBL UniLab Model

UniLab Partner Countries are aiming to expand the scope of cooperation between academia and business and go beyond the constraints of tasks of work packages and introduce a holistic approach to WBL development and implementation to multiply the practical outcome of the project. Partner Countries have now been working on a model of WBL that comprises the areas and strategies of UniLab.



Graph 1. Work-based learning UniLab Model

The graph below presents a model of work-based learning to be disseminated among Program Countries universities. The present model comprises both educational and administrative structures of universities that are to be implementing WBL strategy. WBL includes a variety of practice-oriented learning activities at university as well as internships, apprentices, entrepreneurship and others.

From educational perspective, universities regularly update education programs to meet the current demands of the labor market in generic and subject-specific competences. Apart from BA and MA education programs that are to be updated, students are offered professional development courses:

- Self-understanding;
- Job opportunities, thriving at workplace;
- Entrepreneurship and self branding;
- Managing work pressure and problem-solving.

Thus, the educational component of the Model is represented by the main educational programs and professional development programs that will develop students' generic and subject-specific skills and increase career chances for the fresh graduates.

The administrative component of the Model is represented by Student career centers, which exist in most universities in the post-Soviet countries, provide assistance to students in finding a place for internships and employment. It is common practice for such centers to hold job fairs to which various employers are invited. that are assigned with the following functions:

1. To develop partnership with business, accommodating industry and students needs to the demands of the labor market;
2. Prognostic function to inform the university leadership of the emerging professions and those that become outdated;
3. Research and monitoring of labor market to report back to the university leadership of changes and emerging demands;
4. To operate Student's portal to assist companies with interns and students to select the right company for internship;
5. To sub professional development programs for students, arrange workshops and other activities between labour market and university.

When projecting WBL UniLab Model Partner Countries consortium members were guided by the experience of European partners, where educational program is a carefully designed educational product that competes with other similar programs in the educational market. The design or development of such a program is based on an analysis of the labor market.

Thus, Career centers may become a useful tool to support mentors and educational programs leaders in search for work placement, work practice, work experience for students, based on the extensive experience of the center's employees in interacting with the labor market, and on the other hand , according to a deeper vision of the program developers of the needs of the market, based on the monitoring carried out during the development of such a program.

The most effective and innovative tool can be the result of the UniLab project - a student portal that will allow you to place the Bank of data about placements, internships, employment, employers' and students' portfolio, which will make it much easier for students to find an employer and an employer to find staff. Employability options will allow you to find the right internship and employment in the most efficient way and create Students, employers, HEIs sustainable interaction.

As a new form of internship, it is also possible, based on the experience of European partners, to validate the volunteer activities of students as recognition of internship.

To conclude, this model is an innovative tool for the integration and interaction of all elements of the system and will create a synergistic effect that contributes to the effective building of the WBL program in Russia and the post-Soviet countries.