

## Article by Italian guest teachers



The idea regards a sustainable future in the hairdressing industry involves all the stakeholders: school (both students and teachers), business organizations and consumer associations. All these players met in Malaga from 13th to 15th February within the Erasmus Project “Sustainable salon” (<https://www.sustainable-salon.info/>). This phase of the project has been very relevant because, during the meeting, learning materials have been tested in all the aspects that the project has deal with: energy, water, waste, raw materials and CO2 sustainability.

The training modules for students and teachers have been developed in three levels of the training process: level one is for classes with no or minimum basic understanding and skills about the argument, level two is for those with basic understanding and skills and the last level is meant for (salon) management level students or experienced professional with already quite some basic understanding and skills.

The guest teachers from Italy, Spain, Netherlands and Belgium have to face the common problem of sustainability in the hairdressing industry. Their contribution in presenting the training modules has been very creative and functional because they were adapted to the level of skills and knowledge of the class. Therefore they use media tools which attract the interest of the students by convey the essential content of the lesson.

The Italian teachers team, representing Istituto Veneto del Lavoro (IVL) and Centro Italiano Opere Femminili Salesiane - Formazione Professionale (CIOFS - FP), dealt with the practice of saving water and reducing waste during the work processes of shampooing, cutting and coloring hair, perming and straightening and also cleaning. These practices will be included during the class lessons and laboratory.

Water is an important topic in the hairdressing industry because most of the work processes need washing, rinsing and using water in many ways.

We can say that hairdressing is a very water-intensive industry.



In the image (1) are shown some best practices to reduce water waste and be a sustainable hairdresser.

Image 1

Also hairdressers account for quite some pollution to the water resource of our planet. Moreover, the use of chemical products and liquids, such as colouring, bleaching and perm liquid hairdressers pollute the water in a huge way.

We are not only talking about the styling products, shampoos and conditioners. These are often full of silicones and micro-plastics. All these products disappear into the sewer.

Blando Palmieri, guest teacher of IVL, represented by Elisa Gusella, underlines that the implementation of the training modules will not only have impact on the quality of the profession and the consumers satisfaction, but also on the research for new products and students interest to join the profession.

The European character of the Erasmus Project will harmonize the vocational training with the benefit of increasing the value of the profession against the undeclared activities.

Tatiana Passiatore and Simone Gurrera, guest teachers from CIOFS-FP, express their deep satisfaction about the project; teachers will profit from learning materials in planning teaching activities about sustainability.

Another important aspect of testing learning materials was the opportunity to compare different teaching methods used by Belgium, Netherlands and Spain as a resource which will inspire our teaching activities.