

Success story of Silvia Foderaro at Min2

“I learned how to approach international clients and developed a different and deeper understanding on designing”.

Hi Silvia! Could you tell us a bit more about yourself and why you decided to participate to the Erasmus for Entrepreneurs program?

“My name is Silvia. I came from Italy and I always studied and working all my life in Italy before starting the Entrepreneurs program. I always wanted to know more about what was happening in other countries in the field of Architecture, such as the Netherlands. When I signed up for the program, I wanted to start an exchange with an Host Entrepreneur in Netherlands, since The Netherlands is one of Europe’s most innovative countries in the field of architecture. It was quite hard to find a match, but then I got approached by VMVT. Lynn Spendel found my profile and saw my potential. She connected me to Host Entrepreneur Jetty Min from the Min2 bouw-kunst Studio. The interview with Jetty Min went well we decided to start the exchange. Lynn from VMVT assisted me during the whole process. I could always reach out to her for questions and she always supported me: she was a great help during my whole stay. At the end of April 2019, I arrived in Netherlands and started the experience. In the beginning it was quite hard, being in a totally different country all by yourself. But if I could do it over again, I would.”



Silvia Foderaro together with Maarten and Jetty Min from Min2 (2019)

Who was your host entrepreneur and what was the company like?

“My Host Entrepreneur was the architecture studio of Min2 bouw-kunst in Bergen. I worked for Min2 as a designer. Maarten and Jetty from Min 2 are both architects and art designers, dedicated to focus on designing with natural and sustainable materials. They welcomed me with great enthusiasm and I always felt at ease and free to express myself. ”

What did you work on during the Exchange?

“During my stay, I have mainly worked on several different projects. For example, I assisted in a project about renewing the interior of buildings. In addition to this, I worked on an innovative and particular design project for a innovative camping.”

What did you learn from the Exchange?

“During my exchange I learned how to approach international clients. I learned to exchange impressions and ideas with a large group of collaborators. Moreover, I learn how to communicate appropriately in a language different from my mother tongue. I have mastered computer programs and designing programs.

But above all, I learned a different and deeper approach to designing. This certainly made this experience unforgettable and highly formative. Really, I love my work even more after this and I'm more sure about the way I want to improve my self within my own company. ”

And how did Ms. Jetty Min, the Host Entrepreneur of Silvia experience the Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs exchange?

Jetty Min: “We participated in the program for quite a few years already. We hosted several new entrepreneurs and we were glad to welcome Silvia in our team during her exchange. We tried to involve her in different projects from the beginning till the end, so she could learn the whole process of a architectural project. For Min2, having an exchange with an Italian (starting) entrepreneur was fruitful. Silvia kept us up-to-date- about architectural trends and innovation within the field of design in Italy, which was useful for us.”