

✨ IO READY COMMUNITY ✨

SERENA LUCIA BASSI

*Read about Serena's experience with the
Early Career Coaching Programme*



tailored, enriching, motivating

'If you're feeling confused about your professional objectives, frustrated with the functioning of the international organizations' system, or if you're just ready to kickstart your career within IOs and NGOs, the IO Ready Career Coaching Programme designed by Wiola is just what you need'





Why did you decide to take the IO Ready Early Career Coaching Programme?

I learned about the program when Wiola spoke at our university's career service's inaugural conference. Right from the start, I was genuinely impressed by the way she shared her experiences in front of 500 students. Instead of simply stating, 'I worked for the OECD or the UN,' she narrated her story, emphasizing her background and achievements despite facing difficulties.

What convinced me to pursue the program was the **structure and content she proposed, perfectly tailored to what I was looking for**. Although I had encountered similar programs before, hers seemed to perfectly address my needs.

The IO Ready Early Career Coaching Programme was a **super enriching experience** that **helped me understand the direction I would love to take in the next few years** and provided **insights and knowledge from a real insider in the sector**.





What were the most valuable insights or knowledge you gained from the program?

The most valuable insights that I gained from the program came from **Viola's personality and experiences**. Having the possibility to talk freely with someone of such experience has helped me **better understand a world that was previously unclear and opaque to me**.

I learned the **importance of planning and strategizing for the development of an effective career path**, and I also began to understand the **importance of networking and building meaningful relationships**.



How did Viola's coaching, support, and personality enhance your experience of the programme?

Viola is **empathetic and emotionally intelligent**. Additionally, she has a **structured and strategic nature**. These two facets of her personality combine to create an extraordinary and immensely powerful blend that can propel individuals to enhance both themselves and their professional careers.

Moreover, **Viola's support goes above and beyond the scheduled hours of the coaching programme**. She **sent me personalised job offers** and she also **provided invaluable assistance** with several applications I was working on. She **diligently answered any questions** I had, **meticulously reviewed my CV and motivation letters**, and **even organized a personalized interview preparation session tailored to my specific needs**.



Are there any tangible improvements in your career goals or job search you've experienced since completing the program?

Before the programme, if you had asked me what I wanted to do "next," my response would have been something vague, like "working for an international organization."

Now, **I know exactly what I want to do**, and I analyze every single day what motivates me and the direction I would love to see myself heading. I am starting to **understand my strengths and weaknesses, working to improve what is lacking in my profile.**

Before meeting Viola, searching for job or internship opportunities was among the activities I disliked the most. I can't say that I love it now; however, it is much easier, and **I view it more as an investment in myself and my future.** I have learned **how to be strategic and understand what could work or not in this field.**



Would you recommend the IO Ready Early Career Coaching Programme?

I would recommend the program to anyone struggling to enter this challenging field, feeling confused or just needing some guidance, as the **IO Ready Early Career Coaching Programme is tailored to benefit anyone.**

The **cost and time invested in the program are entirely justified by both the amount of information and resources provided and Wiola's coaching style.**

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