



# EFVET Newsletter

## March 2004

- ✦ **Message from the President**
- ✦ **EFVET Participation in the EU workgroups**
- ✦ **Education & Training 2010" the Success of the Lisbon Strategy**
- ✦ **Meeting Facilities for Efvnet Members in Brussels**
- ✦ **European Training Foundation**
- ✦ **EfVET Joins New NGO Platform on Life Long Learning**
- ✦ **Portrait of the Danish VET System - an Inside Perspective**
- ✦ **Conference Announcement - The Best Practice – Best Language Teaching Methods project**
- ✦ **A Special Dissemination Project Event**
- ✦ **The Development of Social Dialogue in Vocational Education in Russian Federation**
- ✦ **Portrait of New Dutch Member of EfVET Steering Committee**
- ✦ **Impressum**

## **Message from the President (March 2004)**

### **EfVET Annual Conference 2004, Tuscany, Italy**

Preparations for the 2004 Annual Conference in Tuscany, Italy are in full progress. Pre-registration is recommended!

<http://www.efvet.org/conferences/index2004.html>

### **EfVET Annual conference 2005, Hungary**

The Steering Committee agreed to cooperate with the Oktopusz Foundation in Hungary for the organisation of the 2005 Annual conference. We welcome our Hungarian colleagues and in particular Mr Krisztian Forrai for his commitment.

### **New members of the Steering Committee**

At the last Steering Committee Meeting in Brussels (January 31) I had the pleasure to welcome two new members: the new National Representative from the Netherlands: Mrs. Jos Leenhouts and the new National

Representative from the UK Mr. Geoff Scaplehorn. Pete Hodgson can now fully concentrate on the Vice-chairmanship, including the NGO-projects for the European Commission.

### **EfVET European Policy-team**

As agreed on the Annual General Meeting in Cardiff, a working party has been started to improve our relations with several Directorates of the European Union (others than the DG Education and Culture, where we have already good contacts with) and the European Parliament, as follow up of the EP event last year. Currently Mrs Jos Leenhouts (BE-Raad, the Netherlands), John Brennan (Chair of the Association of Colleges in the UK) and Mr. Markku Kantonen (President of the Union of Finnish Vocational Principals) and Mrs. Louise Rosthøj (Chair EfVET Denmark) have agreed to start the working party. After a first start, I will also invite participation from Southern Europe and from the countries in accession.

### **New E-Mail addresses**

EfVET has now uniform E-Mail addresses. For example, my E-Mail address is now [president@efvet.org](mailto:president@efvet.org). National representatives can be reached through a national address, e.g. for Germany: [de@efvet.org](mailto:de@efvet.org). I would like to thank our webmaster Kent Andersen for the work done.

### **The Europass**

Progress is being made in relation to the Europass. The "Europass" refers to the single framework for the transparency of qualifications and competences. An effort is made to present results on the 2004 Maastricht conference under the Dutch Presidency. See also: [http://europa.eu.int/rapid/start/cgi/guesten.ksh?p\\_action.gettxt=gt&doc=IP/04/197/0|RAPID&lg=EN&display](http://europa.eu.int/rapid/start/cgi/guesten.ksh?p_action.gettxt=gt&doc=IP/04/197/0|RAPID&lg=EN&display) about the recognition of qualification across Europe. And <http://www.cedefop.eu.int/transparency/cv.asp> about the European CV.

Hans F. van Aalst  
President  
[president@efvet.org](mailto:president@efvet.org)

## **EFVET Participation in the EU Workgroups**

### **Education and Training 2010 - Diverse Systems, Shared Goals**

As mentioned in the recent newsletters EfVET and EVTA have participated in the ongoing EU working groups, which are dealing with the future concrete objectives of education and training systems adopted by the EU Education Ministers in February 2001. In the document below you will find the interim reports of all working groups and the names of the EfVET/EVTA members, who are represented in the working groups:

click here: <http://www.efvet.org/news/eu.html>

Leif Haar

## Education & Training 2010" the Success of the Lisbon Strategy

Below you find the interim report, which was adopted by the European Educational Council 26. February 2004.

The official and final version of the report will be published at a later stage in the official Journal of the European Union.

Click here to download the interim report: [http://www.efvet.org/newsletters/point\\_3\\_6236\\_en.pdf](http://www.efvet.org/newsletters/point_3_6236_en.pdf)

Leif Haar

## Meeting Facilities for Efvet Members in Brussels

Please observe that EfVET offers meeting facilities in its office in Brussels as a member benefit. If you want further information, please contact our treasurer Frans Schneider :

Houtzaagmolensingel 45  
NL-1611 XK Bovenkarspel  
The Netherlands  
Tel: ++31 228 521 402  
Fax: ++31 228 521 403  
Mobile: ++31 653 8482 71  
E-mail: [f.schneider@quicknet.nl](mailto:f.schneider@quicknet.nl)

## European Training Foundation

The ETF (European Training Foundation) is an agency of the EU and Centre of Expertise supporting **vocational education** and training reform in **third countries** in the context of the EU external relations programmes. We currently operate on behalf of the EU in 40 countries - the ACCs - acceding and candidate countries (Phare), South Eastern Europe (Cards), Eastern Europe and Central Asia (Takis) and the Mediterranean region (Meda).

In addition, the ETF provides technical assistance for the European Commission for the implementation of the **Tempus** Programme in the field of higher education. We are based in Italy, Turin.

- In the years following the establishment of the ETF in 1995, most of our activities focused on Central and Eastern Europe. However, due to accession our work with 10 **acceding countries** will finish in May 2004, and Cedefop will take over for these countries subsequently. Currently know-how transfer to Cedefop on the new member states is taking place and final activities in the acceding countries focus on specific topics related to the **Copenhagen/Objectives Process**, such as the Career Guidance conference in Bratislava (December 2003), the seminar on validation of non-formal learning in Lithuania (February 2004) and the forthcoming seminar on Quality in VET in the acceding countries (April, Czech Republic).  
Support to the three **candidate countries** (Bulgaria, Romania, Turkey) in the field of VET will continue and remain as mandate of the ETF.
- In **South Eastern Europe** (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia and Montenegro, Kosovo) the ETF is currently implementing **regional development projects**, such as on National Qualification Frameworks (NQF) to provide a foundation for improving implementation of qualification processes, or the project "Organisation of Learning Processes and Teacher Training in VET" in which the ETF has set up a VET TT network of South-Eastern European countries, or the project on "Adult Learning Strategies" helping the countries in developing adult

learning strategies. On 11-12 March a workshop on financing of VET in Western Balkans will be organised by ETF in cooperation with Cedefop and the European Investment Bank.

You can find on the **ETF website** <http://www.etf.eu.int/> more detailed information on all the countries the ETF is dealing with, on projects, statistics, forthcoming events and also the **ETF Work Programme for 2004** is now available in multiple languages providing a basic outline of our corporate and operational objectives and proposed activities for the coming year. You can download the Work Programme from our website in English, Italian, German, French, Spanish and Russian.

Furthermore you can find on the web **ETF publications**. All major publications can be downloaded or ordered free of charge from the External Communication Unit. An **ETF Newsletter** will be issued in March and will be published regularly every two months.

## Annex

Some recent ETF publications related to ACCs and South Eastern Europe are:

- **Implementing Lifelong Learning strategies in Europe. Progress report on the follow-up to the Council Resolution on Lifelong Learning in acceding and candidate countries (2003)**. This is a document prepared by the ETF on the request of the European Commission. It provides a thematic analysis of the country reports prepared by the acceding and candidate countries as answers to the questionnaire launched by the European Commission on the follow-up of the Council Resolution on Lifelong Learning. The publication is also [available in French](#) and [German](#).
- **Cross-country statistical analysis of acceding and candidate countries (2003)**. This report prepared by ETF presents a global overview of progress and challenges in the thirteen Acceding and Candidate Countries in the fields of employment and human resource development. The report is based on key employment and education statistical data and draws on a number of information sources including, in particular, the Country Monographs also compiled by ETF as part of the follow-up to the Joint Assessment Papers (JAP) process.
- **Thirteen years of cooperation and reforms in VET in the acceding and candidate countries (2003)**. [The publication looks at the reforms in vocational education and training in the acceding and candidate countries, providing a synthesis of a series of country monographs on lifelong learning and employment services.](#)
- **Country Monographs (2003)**. A comprehensive analysis of employment and training reforms in Future Member States conducted by the ETF in order to assist in monitoring the *Joint Assessment Papers* (JAPs) on employment and training policies. The publication is also [available in German](#). The Country Monographs are available for: [Czech Republic](#), [Lithuania](#), [Malta](#), [Slovak Republic](#), [Slovenia](#).
- **ETF Peer Reviews on Vocational Education and Training Reforms Policy (2003)**. The Peer Review is a new initiative [launched by ETF to provide an external assessment of the VET reform policy initiatives to be of use for national policy makers](#). The initiative is regarded as a strategic approach combining policy advice to individual countries with the regional dimension [and promotes regional networking of experts and policy makers](#). The country reports have been prepared by a team of experts on the basis of background material and information supplied in meetings in the course of site visits organised with the support of the National Observatories. In 2002 ETF has carried out reviews [in Albania](#), [Croatia](#), [Serbia](#) and [Montenegro](#), [Kosovo](#).
- **Lifelong development of competences and qualifications of the workforce (2003)**. The publication is the outcome of the joint ETF-Cedefop conference organized in Athens (May 2003).
- **Review of Career Guidance Policies in acceding and candidate countries - Synthesis Report (2003)**. The publication is the outcome of the activities conducted by ETF on guidance and counselling policies in 11 acceding and candidate countries. The information collection was based on a questionnaire designed by the OECD focused on issues as the key policy instruments and roles of national stakeholders, access, quality assurance, finance, delivery setting and methods.
- **Social dialogue in South Eastern European Countries (2003)**. The publication is the outcome of the ETF project in countries from South Eastern Europe. The aim of the project has been to provide training for a group of representatives (from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Kosovo, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia and Montenegro and Republika Srpska) involved in social partnership functions at both national and regional level.

Helmut Zelloth, ETF Torino

## EfVET Joins New NGO Platform on Life Long Learning

Members will recall seven European associations (NGOs and networks) participated in a large consultation process on the Memorandum on LLL in 2001, they were EfVET, EAEA, EVTA, EUA, CSR Europe, Solidar, Youth; most of the results have been integrated into the "Communication" by the European Commission.

A joint brochure – Focus on LLL – was published to give evidence of this consultation process with associations and organizations Europe-wide. The final communiqué can be found on the EfVET web site <http://www.efvet.org/news/news.html>

In this Communication, several goals and activities for the implementation were described, to which this platform of European associations can contribute, in particular by contributing to a European database on LLL with examples of good practice.

- The creation of a European area of lifelong learning, supported by innovative forms of partnership, cooperation and co-ordination at all levels between the actors involved in the implementation
- The necessity of a continuous work of implementation and monitoring, apart from the work done by the national authorities
- The need of having a platform of NGOs identifying LLL products in an open database
- The development of the existing consultation platform with civil society and the NGOs concerned by lifelong learning
- The initiation of systematic exchange of experiences between social partners, NGOs and others in the field of non-formal and informal learning
- The development by the end of 2003 of a database on good practice, information and experience concerning essential aspects of lifelong learning

The associations plan to collect good practice examples and organize a seminar for exchange of experiences and for dissemination of these examples. Good practice on the two key themes – active citizenship and basic skills, a major concern in the Communication – need to be disseminated widely, a handbook will be complemented by a seminar where organizations and individuals will share knowledge and experiences.

The selection of good practice examples will reflect the situation in a large range of settings from the participating European associations and their member organizations, the following seminar will give room for more organizations and individuals to comment on the examples, to bring more good practice in and to formulate recommendations to the Commission.

EfVET is delighted to be part of this new initiative which will continue in to the coming years supported by the European Commission. It will give members the opportunity to disseminate some of the many good works being undertaken by EfVET member institutions and to learn from each other and in deed the other Network contributors.

Whilst the initiative is set out as a project proposal – it is the intention of the Commission to look to the collaborative partnership of Networks to further advance LLL throughout the European Union.

Full information will shortly be available on the web site – but we would welcome members contributions to the development of good practice as described above. EfVET will be represented on the NGO Platform by Pete Hodgson, Vice President, EfVET and Wolfgang Stutzmann – our German Representative.

Please watch out for further developments and calls for responses. We do hope you will participate in this important process

Pete Hodgson

## **Portrait of the Danish VET System - an Inside Perspective**

The aim of the enclosed publication is to provide a balanced description of the Danish VET system. It bridges the traditional system descriptions with a more qualitative approach in which the VET actors have been given the possibility of voicing their opinions and describing their daily practice. The publication describes the involvement of the social partners, the dual training principle and the daily practice of the vocational colleges from both a legislative point of view and an actor point of view. Hereby the reader is offered an inside perspective on how the objectives of the Danish VET system are translated into daily practice. Click on: <http://www.delud.dk/dk/publikationer/VETPortrait/>

Louise Rosthøj

## **Conference Announcement**

### **The Best Practice – Best Language Teaching Methods Project**

Conference announcement: October 15th - 18th 2004 in Odense, Denmark. Take part in the project conference jointly organized by EfVET, EuroCall (<http://www.eurocall-languages.org>) and "The Best Practice - Best Language Teaching Methods" teams. The conference focuses on language teaching methodologies with an emphasis on ICT and communicative skills.

To receive further information on the conference please register for the project Newsletter where all information regarding the conference will be posted. To do so go to this address:  
at this address:

[http://www.efvet.org/bpbltm\\_email\\_list.htm](http://www.efvet.org/bpbltm_email_list.htm)

The core content of the conference will be demonstrations of the five selected language teaching methods at five repeated concurrent workshops. The participants will experience the strengths of these methodologies by personally learning Basque (through task based learning), Danish (through computer assisted language learning), Dutch (through tandem learning), Gaelic (through language teaching simulations), and Romanian (through the Physical Emotional and Cultural approach).

Invited renowned speakers from EuroCall will demonstrate current ICT technologies for language teaching, portfolios, and evaluation of students.

The first and last days will have expert panels conducting discussions on new possibilities in language learning. These days are also dedicated for networking creating sustainable networks that will work for promotion of communicative language teaching methods, also EuroCall members will try to establish local EuroCall committees and recruit new members for these.

During and after the event the participants will be invited and motivated to join the BP-BLTM online communities exchanging ideas and materials. These communities will be supported by voluntary members of the BP-BLTM teams who have committed themselves to continue supporting language teachers after the project period.

The participants will receive the full package of the BP-BLTM products including the DVD library and CD-ROMs.

Kent Andersen

## **A Special Project Dissemination Event**

Last year we finished our Leonardo pilot project “European Middle Management Training”- called EMMT among friends. At the final dissemination conference Romualdas Pusvaskis attended. He is director of the VET-department in the Lithuanian ministry of education. He was very interested in our project results, and asked if we could go to Lithuania and present it to the VET-managers. Fortunately our national agency for Leonardo project found it a good idea. We had some money left in the budget, and we got an extension for three months. In January our friends arranged a conference attended by some 50 managers from all over the country. They were very keen on this subject, and are now trying to find out how we can follow up in their country - as usual it is difficult to find money!

Louise Rosthøj, TeSe, EFVET-DK

## **The Development of Social Dialogue in Vocational Education in Russian Federation**

### **Project summary /objectives**

The main focus of the project is fostering the social dialogue between VET institutions. The project aim is to build up a model for sustainable cooperation between VET schools and social partners. The main target group is the principals of VET schools in Russia and also their social partners. The project aims also to establish cooperation forms between the Finnish and Russian unions of principals of vocational schools. The principals will be introduced to the Finnish best practices in the management of VET, to the methods of working together with enterprises/social partners and to the cooperation forms of VET organizations in Europe and in the world.

### **Applicant**

The Association of Principals of vocational Institutions in Finland

### **Partners**

The All-Russian Public Organization “Union of Directors of Secondary VET Institutions”  
Aike International

### **Time and duration**

The project started in the beginning of the year 2003 and will go on till the end of June 2004. An application for an extension the implementation time for three months has been made to allow the participation of the Russian partners in the IVETA conference in September 2004.

### **Political support**

The project is firmly supported by Ministry of Education in Russia and in Finland and by the social partners in both countries.

### **Activities**

The project activities are studies of the best practices of the cooperation between VET schools and social partners in Finland and in Russia,

seminars on the subject social partnership in VET,

Working out new cooperation models and piloting them in 3-4 schools,

study visits of the principals to Finland and to Russia,

participation of the Russian representatives in the EFVET and IVETA conferences

## **Results**

The project results will be:

A report of the best practices in Finland and in Russia of the cooperation between VET schools and social partners

A report on the development of the new cooperation model and on the piloting of it

A procure for the social partners on the results of the project

Cooperation agreements between the Russian and Finnish unions of VET principals and between VET schools in Russia and in Finland.

## **Results achieved by February 2004 are:**

The realized studies on the best practices in Finland and in Russia (for the final report the studies will be revised and combined),

Piloting going on in Voronezh, Ryazan and Tver,

Cooperation agreements on process between the unions of principals and between some Finnish and Russian schools.

In addition also a decision has been made by the Russian Union of Secondary VET school principals for applying for the membership of EFVET.

A proposal for a new, follow up project has been drafted and will be delivered to the EU commission in spring 2004..

For further information contact [raija.vuorenmaa@aike.fi](mailto:raija.vuorenmaa@aike.fi)

## **Portrait of New Dutch Member of EfVET Steering Committee**

It was in autumn 2002 in Sevilla, that I first participated in EFVET; in 2003 I joined the Steering Committee as member from the Netherlands.

Why?

Because I can use some of my former experiences to support the role of EFVET in EU.

I have been working in education quite a long time, but I left this challenging field for a few years to be a civil servant; first as the director for Vocational and Adult Education in the Ministry of Education, later Director for European Integration in the Ministry of Economic Affairs. In that job I had the wonderful chance to participate extensively in the preparation of the Lisbon Summit, that as you know had quite an impact on the EU social/economic and educational policies.

In 2002 I went back to the educational field as the chair of the board of the Mondriaan Onderwijsgroep, a large regional college for Vocational and Adult Education.

As a member of the Steering Committee I hope to contribute to the strength of EFVET as a partner and lobbyist in EU educational policies,

Jos Leenhouts

## **Impressum**

### **Editor:**

Leif Haar, Tietgen Business College, e-mail: [leha@tietgen.dk](mailto:leha@tietgen.dk)

### **Webmaster:**

Kent Andersen. Odense Technical College, e-mail: [webmaster@efvet.org](mailto:webmaster@efvet.org)

The EFVET Newsletter is published electronically on the EFVET website and sent to members by e-mail.

New deadline for manuscripts: 1th June 2004