The future of EU VET policy post 2020

EfVET Annual Conference 2018
Rethinking VET for Inclusive Excellence
Como, Italy, 25 October 2018

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1) Policy

*Preparing the future of EU cooperation on VET*

2) Funding

*Providing the financial resources to support VET policy*

3) A New Initiative

*The Platforms of “Centres of Vocational Excellence”*
Preparing the future of EU cooperation on VET
Europe for Skills

High political commitment

1st Principle
Education, training and life-long learning

Everyone has the right to quality and inclusive education, training and life-long learning in order to maintain and acquire skills that enable them to participate fully in society and successfully manage transitions in the labour market.
Strategic Development Goals

High political commitment

GOAL 4:
Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

TARGET 4.1
Primary and secondary education
Support Ministries of Education in developing accessible and inclusive curricula and assessments to monitor all learners, including those with disabilities

TARGET 4.2
Early childhood care and education
Ensure that children with disabilities under five years of age are included in disability-responsive early childhood development programmes

TARGET 4.3
Technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university
Support higher education institutions and vocational training centres in including learners with disabilities

TARGET 4.4
Skills for work
Ensure access to suitable technology for learners with disabilities, to enable them to develop suitable skills for work

TARGET 4.5
Inequality
Ensure that Education Management Information System (EMIS) data in schools is disaggregated by disability and gender of impairment

TARGET 4.6
Literacy and numeracy
Ensure that learners with disabilities achieve literacy and numeracy to the best of their potential, using accessible formats when necessary (such as easy-read books, braille, large print, pictograms and more) and sign language

TARGET 4.7
Sustainable development and global citizenship
Ensure that all learners with disabilities acquire the knowledge and skills to understand sustainable development and global citizenship

TARGET 4.a
Education facilities and learning environments
Build and upgrade education facilities that are child, disability- and gender-sensitive and provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all learners with disabilities

TARGET 4.b
Scholarships
Ensure that learners with disabilities have equal access to higher education scholarships that are made available to developing countries

TARGET 4.c
Teachers
Increase the supply of qualified teachers trained in inclusive education pedagogy

Implementation of Quality inclusive education in SDG 4

Quality inclusive education in SDG 4
Megatrends affecting Education and training

- Changing world of work
- Digitalisation and technological change
- Migration
- Inclusive societies
- "Blurring borders" between E&T sectors
- Heterogeneity of learners
- Globalisation
- Diversity of learning opportunities
- "Blurring borders" between E&T sectors
- Greening economy and climate change
- Ageing population
The short shelf life of skills and a tightening labour market are giving rise to a multitude of skill gaps.

Businesses are fighting to stay ahead of the curve, trying to hold onto their best talent and struggling to fill key positions.

Individuals are conscious of the challenge to stay relevant in the age of automation.

How do employees prefer to learn?

- 58% of employees prefer to learn at their own pace
- 68% of employees prefer to learn at work
- 49% of employees prefer to learn at the point of need
Getting the job done
Together ... at EU level

**Frameworks**
- European Pillar of Social Rights
- European Semester
- ET2020, VET & AL agendas

**Member States and social partners**
- ACVT, DGVT, National coordinators for AL

**Council Recommendations**

**Policy initiatives**
- European Alliance for Apprenticeships
- European Vocational Skills Week
- Centres of Vocational Excellence

**Working Groups and Peer Learning**

**Funding**
- ESF
- Erasmus+
- EASI
- InvestEU

**Other stakeholders**
- VET providers, VET researchers, European Apprentices Network

**Evidence and Analysis**
- Cedefop, Eurostat, OECD, ETF, JRC
EU cooperation on VET policy
2015 Riga conclusions

Common priorities 2015-2020

- Work-based learning in all its forms (including Apprenticeships)
- Quality assurance, feedback loop: Labour market and VET provision
- Access to training and qualifications for all in a LLL perspective (c-VET for upskilling + reskilling)
- Strengthen key competences both in initial and continuing VET
- VET teachers and trainers initial and continuous professional development
VET modernisation
Preparing the post 2020 strategy

2016-2018
• Cedefop study on “The changing nature and role of VET in Europe – future challenges and opportunities”

2018
• Riga Monitoring "The 2017 progress report"

2017-2018
• Study on instruments supporting VET quality and flexibility
  • Study on vocational mobility

2018-2020
• EU MFF and Funding instruments 2021-2027
  • ET2020 WG on VET and AE
  • ACVT opinion on a Strategic vision for VET
  • Proposals for E&T post-2020
A new ambition for VET post 2020

Excellence
- Supporting innovation
- Regional development
- Regional economic strategies
- Focus on both initial and continuing VET

Inclusion
- Broadening access
- Social mobility
- "Nobody left behind"
- Guidance
- Validation

Flexibility and responsiveness
- Skills anticipation
- Flexible ‘rapid response’
- Modular curricula and qualifications

Efficiency and financing
- Investment and cost-sharing
- Rewarding quality and efficiency
- Performance based financing

International dimension
- Mobility of learners, T&T, leaders
- International qualification
- Partnerships
- Evidence sharing

21st century skills

New methods for teaching and learning

Digitalisation, Industry 4.0

Teachers and trainers

Validation + Guidance

Changing world of work

Future proof VET - for jobs and growth
EU budget for the future
The MFF 2021-2027
The Structure

In billion euro, current prices

I. SINGLE MARKET, INNOVATION AND DIGITAL
- Research and Innovation: €187.4
- European Strategic Investments
- Single Market
- Space

II. COHESION AND VALUES
- Regional Development and Cohesion
- Economic and Monetary Union
- Investing in People, Social Cohesion and Values
- €442.4

III. NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT
- Agriculture and Maritime Policy
- Environment and Climate Action
- €378.9

IV. MIGRATION AND BORDER MANAGEMENT
- Migration
- Border Management
- €34.9

V. SECURITY AND DEFENCE
- Security: €27.5
- Defence
- Crisis Response
- €123

VI. NEIGHBOURHOOD AND THE WORLD
- External Action
- Pre-Accession Assistance
- €123

VII. EUROPEAN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
- €85.3

Total: €1279.4
Commission proposal for ESF+ 2021-2017

European Social Fund Plus
Support to the most deprived

€100 Billion
at least 4%

Employment and Social Innovation strand

€761 Million

Health strand

€413 million

Total Budget

€101.2 Billion
ESF priorities of interest to VET and AE

The overall policy reference

EU Pillar of Social Rights

Horizontal principles

- Gender
- Equal opportunities
- Non discrimination

Contribution to "Smart Europe" and Climate mainstreaming

(i) improving access to employment
(ii) modernising labour market
(iii) women’s labour market participation, work/life balance, childcare, working environment, adaptation to change, active and healthy ageing
(iv) Quality, effectiveness and labour market relevance of education and training
(v) Access to inclusive education and training
(vi) Lifelong learning,
(vii) Active inclusion
(viii) Integration of migrants and marginalised communities e.g. Roma;
(ix) Access to services;
(x) social protection healthcare systems and long term care
(x) people at risk of poverty including / most deprived and children;
(xi) addressing material deprivation
Commission proposal for Erasmus 2021-2017

Enriching lives, opening minds through EU-funded learning opportunities abroad, partnerships, support to reform

2014 - 2020

14.7 billion EUR

Opportunities abroad for over 4 million people

2021 - 2027

30 billion EUR

Opportunities abroad for over 12 million people
Erasmus novelties of interest to VET and AE

- **Erasmus+** doubling the budget to €30 billion (*x3 mobilities*)
- **Increase the key targets:**
  - **VET** - Triple the number of learners and staff with the opportunity to go abroad: *from 650,000 to around 2 million people*

- Opening the **international dimension** to VET mobility of learners and staff
- Mobility for upskilling and reskilling (**continuing VET**)
- Support for the set-up of Platforms of "Centres of vocational excellence"
- **Small-scale partnerships to** strengthen the participation of small
- Enlarging the concept of **Staff in mobility** actions to include "multipliers" with leverage on guiding/implementing training, e.g. HR staff in companies
Platforms of Centres of Vocational Excellence

"Upward convergence" for VET excellence
2004 Maastricht Communiqué:
“...achieve high levels of quality and innovation in VET system...”

2006 Helsinki Communiqué:
“...developing and highlighting excellence in VET skills...”

2008 Bordeaux Communiqué:
“... promote excellence and... guarantee equal opportunities.”

2010 Bruges Communiqué:
“...vocational excellence for smart and sustainable growth.”
“VET providers to collaborate with enterprises, design centres, cultural sector, and HE forming "knowledge partnerships".

2015 Riga Conclusions:
“increase cooperation to promote innovation and excellence”
2012 Communication on **Rethinking Education**: Proposes to align VET policies with regional/local economic development strategies namely for smart specialisation

2017 Communication on **Strengthening Innovation** in Europe's Regions: Proposes to link VET to innovation systems, as part of smart specialisation strategies at regional level

2018 Communication on **Building a stronger Europe (EEA)** Proposes to support the establishment of Centres of Vocational Excellence

2018 Commission proposal for the next **Erasmus** programme 2021-2027 Proposes to support Platforms of **Centres of Vocational Excellence** under the title of Partnerships for Excellence (KA2)

Time to launch an ambitious initiative with EU support?
Bringing together:
- Policy makers
- Companies
- Chambers
- Employment services/agencies
- Regional development agencies
- VET institutions (at all levels)
- Universities of applied science
- Research centres

High "Skill ecosystem" flourishes

Companies
See comparative advantage to address skill development and business performance for generating innovation and growth

Vocational Education and Training
Responsive delivery at all levels, that is valued by individuals and employers

Policy setting
VET, employment and economic development policies support high skills strategy

Individuals
Invest in skills because of rewarding jobs and career opportunities

Centres of Vocational Excellence
Active in “Knowledge triangle”

Research and Development

New knowledge improves VET curricula as well as teaching and learning methods
VET skills as an input for research and development

VET promoting Entrepreneurial attitudes and STEAM skills

VET skills as a key input for Business innovation and competitiveness
Knowledge of market needs push for relevant VET curricula and qualifications

Vocational Education and training (including HE)

Business/Industry

New knowledge is a source of innovation
Business opportunities push for research and development
What is Vocational Excellence?
Pro-active partner in local development

- Partnerships for: Skills anticipation, Apprenticeships, T&T exchanges
- Providing both Initial and continuing VET at all EQF Levels
- Incubators supporting job-creation, and start-ups
- Innovation HUB
- Technology diffusion
- Project based learning
- Quality assurance feedback loop, learner tracking
- Cost-sharing and sustainable funding
- Flexible pathways with Schools and Universities
- Validation and Guidance

Focus on Quality

Regional development, Smart Specialisation, Co-creating skills eco-systems, Knowledge triangle
## "Centres of Vocational Excellence"
### In a nutshell

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<th>The Goal</th>
<th>VET Excellence, innovation and attractiveness</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vocational Centres <strong>co-creating</strong> local innovation and <strong>skills</strong> eco-systems</td>
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<td>Vocational Centres open to the world through <strong>collaborative platforms</strong></td>
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<th>How to get there</th>
<th>Transnational collaborative Platforms of CoVE</th>
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<td>Sharing a common interest in:</td>
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<td><strong>Sectoral</strong> approach (<em>e.g.</em> Automotive, Aerospace, Tourism, Social care...)</td>
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<td><strong>Thematic</strong> societal challenges (<em>e.g.</em> Upskilling, Migration, Digital skills...)</td>
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<th>EU funding</th>
<th>Erasmus 2021-2027 driving the initiative, and... <strong>ESF+</strong>, <strong>ERDF</strong>, <strong>InvestEU</strong>, <strong>Horizon Europe</strong></th>
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| The partners | VET providers, Tertiary education, Research institutions, Science parks, Companies, Chambers, Social partners, National and regional authorities agencies, Public employment services... |
Platforms connecting existing VET providers, their networks, Chambers:

- Internationalisation strategies, including mobility of learners and staff
- Sharing of know-how, resources and equipment
- Anticipating future skill needs (including Digitalisation)
- Developing Joint VET curricula
- Innovative teaching and training methods (Digitalisation)
- Applied innovation projects
- Project based learning
Platforms of Vocational Excellence
The way forward!

2018
- Erasmus+ KA3 call for Joint VET qualifications
- ET2020 WG 2018-2020 focused on innovation and digitalisation in VET
- Seminar with Joint Research Centre on VET in smart specialisation
- Study (includes mapping) to support ET2020 WG, focusing on CoVE

2019
- Erasmus+ Sector Skills Alliances call for pilot projects on CoVE
- Erasmus+ KA2 priorities include training content and VET qualifications
- Erasmus+ KA3 call for Networks and partnerships of VET providers

2020
- Erasmus+ continued support for Platforms of Excellence (beyond SSA)

2021-2027
- Erasmus and ERDF, ESF+, InvestEU, Horizon Europe supporting CoVE
The 2018 Week. Register your events on https://ec.europa.eu/social/vocational-skills-week/