



European Forum
of Technical and Vocational
Education and Training

EfVET Newsletter March 2017

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Message from the President March 2017

Dear Members, welcome to the March issue of the EfvET Newsletter.

The echoes of the First European Skills Week still resound in our ears. From the 5th to the 9th of December in Brussels, and in the previous weeks all around Europe, nearly one thousand events approved by the European Commission took place to help people “Discover their talent” and show the quality and attractiveness of VET. You will find an article on the Week in this issue. And without time to rejoice in the success, we already know the dates of the Second European Skills Week. It will be in November, 20th to 24th. So this year we will have more time to prepare, disseminate and contribute to this week, as well as to give it more visibility at national and regional levels. Under the same theme as last year, i.e. “Raising VET attractiveness and excellence”, this 2nd Week will focus on the mobility of VET learners and quality apprenticeships, partnerships between businesses and VET providers, and approaches to address skills mismatches and respond to rapidly changing skills needs. As you can see, these are three subjects crucial to the development of VET and for guaranteeing quality jobs for our learners. So let’s get down to work to make this second Week an even greater success.

In this Newsletter you will also meet Alicia Gabán. After a selection process we started last year, the past 20th of February Alicia began to work in our central office in Brussels as Communication Officer and Project Assistant. She will be responsible for developing EfvET’s communication strategy, linked to the launch of our new website and to a more active presence in social media. And she will share with Pete and Valentina the workload related to the different projects EfvET is partner in, and of which you will find more information in this issue as well. Welcome, Alicia, and we hope to have you on board for a lot of years.

And after my election as President it was necessary to replace me as Spanish representative in the Steering Committee. The chosen person is Alfredo Garmendia, whom many of you already know, as he has been an active contributor in several projects and a familiar face in our annual conferences. Welcome to the team, Alfredo, and thank you for your willingness to collaborate to the growth of EfvET.

Apart and before the VET Week, this year brings a lot of chances for EfvET and its members to be engaged in shaping the future of VET. We continue with our presence in the ECVET Working Group, the Working Group on VET inside the ET 2020 strategy, and also as members of the Platform of European Associations of VET providers. In February there were meetings of those last two, of which you can find more information in this issue. But we are also coordinating a group of experts in collaboration with CEDEFOP and the other VET providers, to further develop the quality in VET. These groups will create a Community of Experts on quality.

Besides, after having met the responsible of the EQF Advisory Group, we will ask – jointly with the other VET providers Associations – for a post in that group, where VET providers are

underrepresented. And we are also fostering the collaboration with many institutions related to VET and HE. A lot of interesting things are happening around VET and EfVET present in all of them.

But to reach all these goals and be able to give a response to the demands from the European Commission and other institutions, we need your help. As we talked in Valencia, we want you to be more involved in all these groups and tasks. There is a lot of expertise among our members, and we want you to have the opportunity to collaborate and transfer your knowledge and experience. All of you, all of us, are EfVET. And we need to be sure we give the right messages and ideas, and this will only be possible if we have your feedback. So I encourage you to get even more involved in this fantastic task we have ahead, thinking in the benefits for our learners.

We are already working in the programme for our annual conference, next October in Thessaloniki. As soon as the new website and the conference website are ready you will get more information.

Thank you again for your contribution to make EfVET stronger.

Warmest regards.

Santiago García
President, EfVET

26th Annual EfVET International Conference 25th – 28th October 2017, Thessaloniki, Greece



We are pleased to invite you to the next EfVET Annual International Conference which will take place in Thessaloniki, Greece, on the 25th – 28th October 2017. The Conference will bring together practitioners, researchers and educators from around the world, who are engaged in Vocation Training and Education. The Conference will host delegates from more than 150 institutions and it will cover more than 72 hours, 30 roundtables and 6 workshops.

Full details of the programme and theme will be available in May on the new website.

Panagiotis G. Anastasopoulos and Leif Haar

Alicia Gaban Barrio – New EfVET Communications Officer & Project Assistant



Dear all,

I'm delighted to join EfVET Brussels Office as a Communications Officer and Project Assistant. I am based in Brussels since 2010 when I was granted with a one-year Erasmus exchange grant at the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven. This was part of my main 5-year degree in Journalism from the Universidad Complutense of Madrid (Spain). Following my Erasmus experience, I decided to stay in Belgium, on this occasion as a Master student. Actually, I hold a Master's degree in Communication Studies, New Media and Society in the European Union from the Vrije Universiteit Brussels.

In the last six years, I have acquired a broad experience in developing communication strategies for EU associations. Prior to EfVET, I worked as EU Legal Affairs Assistant for BusinessEurope and as a Communications Team Assistant at the European Union Agency for the Fundamental Rights (Vienna) and as well at European Schoolnet (Brussels). Due to these professional experiences, I had the opportunity to disseminate EU projects, design publications and infographics and mainly review social media strategies.

My main challenge as a member of the communications coordination team will be to refresh the association's communication strategy and boost EfVET presence at the heart of the EU sphere and VET debate. Besides, I will be closely working with Valentina, supporting different projects such as LikeHome, Tour4All, Raise among others. I am certain that these projects would benefit from my professional expertise.

Last but not least, I would like to invite you all to follow our Social Media Channels: Twitter ([@Ef_VET](#)), and Facebook ([EfVET](#)) if you are not already doing so! Let's keep in mind that EfVET communications success depends on us. We all have to take the role of a dissemination channel, spreading the voice and supporting EfVET to position itself not only as a VET role model thanks to their projects and hard work, but as well as a daily reference VET communication channel.

My mother tongue is Spanish and I speak fluent English and French.

In my free time I enjoy travelling, instagramming my favorite moments & tweeting around the EU Bubble!

I am looking forward to meeting you all!

Alicia Gaban, ag@efvet.org

New National representative from Spain at EfVET Steering Committee



Dear colleagues

I am Alfredo Garmendia. I guess we have already met each other in any EfVET conference somewhere around Europe, as I am one of those who are usually there; my very first conference was in Cyprus 2006.

I got my degree in English studies in 1995 and since then I have always worked in education. I started teaching to adults (LLL) in companies such as Airtel (later Vodafone) then to university business students (higher education) and finally in the year 2001 I started working at Centro San Viator where I have worked in VET and HighVET education. Along the years my duties in my organization have changed quite a lot. I started like a teacher but step by step we got more and more EU projects and nowadays I just teach a few hours a week to teenagers at risk of exclusion, which I really like.

I enjoy a lot working in EU projects since this allows me to meet people from other countries and different cultures. Besides I am a convinced Europeanist that thinks that moving students and professionals around Europe will help us in the task of constructing a real European Union and pulling down the walls of prejudice; as the EU motto stands *In Varietate Concordia*

Being a member of the Steering Committee of EfVET is a challenge for me; I just hope to be able to contribute with my job and ideas.

See you in Thessaloniki

European Vocational Skills Week, 5-9 December 2016



European Vocational Skills Week, 5-9 December 2016



The inaugural European Vocational Skills Week took place 5-9 December 2016, **bringing together a full range of VET stakeholders from across Europe** and covering themes such as: Adult Learning and reskilling, Youth employment, VET's contribution to competitiveness and jobs, Apprenticeships and mobility, Businesses and VET and Improving quality assurance in VET.

"This has been a great Week with all our younger and older skills learners. Congratulations to all involved!"

Marianne Thyssen, European Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility

Events in Member States

Over 900 national events and activities took place, with activities in all EU Member States and beyond.

Events in Member States reached over **700,000 people**

Top types of activities:

Open doors
Conferences
Seminars

Top types of organisers:

Vocational Training organisations
National/Regional/Local authorities
National Agencies

Top 3 countries:

Spain
Hungary
Croatia

Top target groups:

Teachers
Vocational learners
Young people



Brussels Events

Participants at the Brussels events stated that their expectations were met or exceeded and that a large majority would come back to a similar event next year.

1,500 people attended the events organised by the European Commission



EU Commissioner Günther Göttinger and apprentices, Siemens Training Center, Germany

Social Media

Over **8,800 posts**

Over **9,000,000 viewers***

Over **30,000,000 impressions****

*The number of unique users who have seen posts about the Week

**The number of times that users have seen posts containing the hashtag, keyword, URL, and/or mention

Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion

Read more:



2016 European Vocational Skills Week

<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=1261>



EUskillsweek – Discover your talent 8 & 9 December Rosa Nab, Student from Friesland College, NL

Since August this year a fellow student and I have been working on a program to connect the first year students and the final year students, and have them learn from each other.

Our program got submitted to the skillsweek by Mentorprogramma Friesland. They support us within our college.

As a final year nursing student I know what the first year students are missing, which is what makes the program so successful. Who knows what you need better, than those who walked the same path.

EU vocational skills week is a congress regarding VET within Europe. The congress focused on improving the image of VET and bring forward the excellence and quality of practical education.

Allot of important topics were discussed during the conference. The topics ranged from how to improve VET for our students to different programs to improve our students. There was only one thing missing; The students. Everyone was talking about them, but hardly anyone was talking with them. Apart from me and a fellow student, all I could see were managers, directors, teacher, and so on. A few interesting points were discussed, but they missed a student's voice in them.

A big problem within the VET is a skills mismatch. Research shows that employees have more qualities than used in their current jobs and are not challenged enough. This leads to dissatisfaction and a hold on improvement. Besides that is a big part of the youth unemployed while there is a shortage in the working world. This shows that a big percentage is trained for the "wrong" sector.

VET schools and their students are seen as the bottom layer of society, filled with people who are not smart, talented and motivated enough to go to university. This is simply not true and a stigma we need to lose. In fact, VET students and graduates show better practical knowledge and skills than those who attend(ed) university. VET is a source of opportunities and we should view them as such.

But, VET studies only become relevant when combined with the working world. Businesses should invest in students and offer them the opportunity to be trained and skilled within their occupation. The students of today are our future and the most important generation because of it.

When students don't get the right education or opportunities, students won't develop the necessary skills. And so, the skills mismatch continues. When the gap between these two worlds gets smaller, youth unemployment will decrease.

The only reason this is not happening is because of fear. The fear of investing. Will my money end up in the right place? Am I able to train this student? Is my business compatible? Yes, with the right funding it is. Education is not a one man job, it's a shared responsibility everyone needs to contribute to. We need to take a step forward for the new generation. And the most important thing we should keep in mind: **We are all on the same side.** The businesses, the schools and the entire society benefits from practically educated adolescents to enter the working world.

To actualize this concept we need a new breath of managers and teachers. Does this mean we need to fire all the managers and teachers we have now and hire new ones? Absolutely not, but it does mean we need to drastically change the mindset. We need to be creative and innovative. Teachers don't know how to learn anymore, but this is a skill that is easily trained. A lot of teachers educate students for a world they are no longer in. They would benefit from stepping into the working world and see what kind of culture they are sending their students into.

Change on the floor does not come from above, it needs to come from inside out. We need to refresh and change our ways. We want all our students to be lifelong learners, so why aren't all our teachers? Education is not a one way street anymore where the teacher gives off the information and the students swallow it all. It's a mutual exchange. It is apparent that in times of rapid change, the students dominate the world of IT. Students are more innovative with technology than the teachers, so why not take advantage of it? Joining forces.

Change the mindset. Start from the inside out. Work with what you have and change it. Employers want to be involved in the educational system, encourage and support it. You can think on macrolevel all you want, but act on microlevel. Small steps cause the breakthrough. You are educating a student, not a statistic.

Remember: **you are not preparing the students for a job, you are preparing them for a career.**

Interns are an investment and need the right funding. This is a shared responsibility. Small businesses are crucial when it comes to practical learning. They also need funding to train their students and should be considered a valid part of the educational system.

A step forward is a cooperation and a cooperation is a step forward. Make VET studies more interesting and a wise career choice for anyone. One way to do this is to offer job security. Give students the certainty that when they perform the chances of getting the job are very high. This makes sure that the businesses know their investment is not going to waste. The student gets trained for the company and are no less than an addition.

Fourth meeting of the ET2020 WG on VET

Last 20th and 21th of February took place in Brussels the fourth meeting of the ET2020 Working Group on VET. It was attended by participants from Member States (AT, BE, BG, HR, CY, CZ, FI, DE, HU, IE, LV, LT, RO, SI, ES, SE), candidate (FYROM, SR) and EFTA countries (CH, IC, NO), social partners, VET providers and other relevant stakeholders, and also CEDEFOP and ETF. Santiago García, EfVET President, attended the meeting.

The meeting's objectives were:

To receive updates on new developments at EU level and relevant findings from latest research

To discuss and further refine the draft final output of the first working area of the WG

To take the first steps to develop a communication plan for the output.

To have an initial discussion regarding the output from the second working area of the WG.

João Santos provided an overview of policy initiatives stemming from the announcement of 7th December of the "Investing in Europe's Youth" initiative, i.e. the quality framework for apprenticeships; the proposal on ErasmusPRO on mobility of apprentices; proposed apprenticeship support services and the proposal for tracking the outcomes of VET graduates. He also mentioned the idea of organising a "teachers & trainers award" for the 2nd European Vocational Skills Week.

Simon Broek (consultant) presented further results from the study on "Teachers and trainers in WBL/apprenticeships: mapping of models and practices" conducted by Panteia for the European Commission.

Irene Psifidou (CEDEFOP) described the findings from the CEDEFOP study "Leaving education early: putting vocational education and training centre stage" which highlights the important role VET teachers and trainers play.

The WG considered the draft output regarding the first WG area (governance and partnerships) presented by Andrew McCoshan (Ecorys). Working in three groups, participants examined the draft Policy Pointers in terms of relevance of content and coverage.

Consideration was then given to how to communicate the outputs of the WG. Emily Jones (Ecorys) outlined the building blocks of a communication plan and the WG split into groups to consider the goal, the objectives, target groups and channels as an input for the contractor.

The final session of small group work was devoted to generating initial thinking regarding the output of the second area of the WG (professional development of teachers and trainers).

At the end of the meeting, Ann Vanden Bulcke highlighted the joint ET 2020 WG meeting on migration on 28th March that will consider how to meet the learning needs of new arrived migrants across all sectors of education and training.

Finally, Norbert Schöbel described the next steps for the WG:

A webinar on 5th April, where the Policy Pointers for the 2nd area of the WG mandate would be discussed and consolidated outcomes of the discussion on communications would be presented.

A face-to-face meeting of the WG will take place in Brussels on 13-14 June, where, inter alia, a focus will be on processes and on good practices, (e.g. each Member State will present at least one good practice example that will be validated by the WG).

Lots of ideas came from the discussions and step by step the outputs are taking shape. If you want to give feedback about the subject or more information, don't hesitate to contact EfVET central office.

Santiago García.
President



Meeting of the Platform of European Associations of VET Providers

On the 10th of February took place in Brussels the meeting of the Platform of European Associations of VET Providers. The participants were representatives from the 6 Associations members of the expert group (EVBB, EFTA, EUProVET, EfVET, EURASHE and EUCEN), CEDEFOP and ETF. EfVET was represented by Stelios Mavromoustakos, Vice-president, and Santiago García, President.

Dana Bachmann (Head of Unit E3 - VET, apprenticeships, adult learning), welcomed the participants and provided an update on the latest news about VET and AL policy developments, mainly on the Skills agenda and the tripartite Opinion on quality and cost-effective apprenticeships and work-based learning adopted by the ACVT in December 2016.

Joao Santos presented the results of the first Vocational Skills Week and improvements for the next edition were discussed. Participants stressed the importance of going local with several days devoted to national and regional events as well as increasing interactivity in the events at European level. Also the participation of other stakeholders should be enhanced (guidance centres, parents' associations, universities, students, etc.).

After that, the group reviewed the results from two years' work. A short report will be prepared and presented to the ACVT at the meeting on 20-21 April 2017. Concerning the future mandate of the expert group, suggestions for topics were inputs to the VET Review post-2020, Vocational Skills Week, links between VET and HE, higher VET, adult learning (follow up to the Upskilling Pathways Recommendation). A new mandate should be prepared and agreed by June 2017.

Martina Ní Cheallaigh (EMPL E3) presented the recently adopted Upskilling Pathways Recommendation. The participants stressed that adult learning, in particular CVET, is a key topic for VET providers and called for more resources and putting adults in the focus (in addition to youngsters) in the action of the EU.

Eamon Davern, from DG EMPL/B1, explained the purpose of the PES (Public Employment Services) network and possible ways of collaboration between it and the Platform.

Joao Santos gave later on an overview of the 4 actions of the Investing for Europe's Youth Package adopted by the Commission in December 2016, with special attention to the initiative 'ErasmusPro', focused on the long-duration (more than 6 months) mobility of VET learners.

Following a short presentation by Koen Nomden, Team leader, Unit EMPL/E2, in charge of the EQF Advisory Group, the Platform might designate a second participant (in addition to EURASHE) to represent upper secondary VET in the EQF Advisory Groups meetings.

At the end of the meeting a person from DG EAC shortly presented the Erasmus+ 30 years celebrations and invited participants to contribute.

The tentative date for the next meeting of the Platform is May/June 2017.

We want to thank our Vice-president Stelios Mavromoustakos for his contribution to the Platform, now that due to personal and working reasons he will cease his participation to the expert group. His great commitment has made possible for EfVET to acquire a high level of representation before the other VET providers Associations and the European Commission. All of us will miss Stelios' contribution and expertise.

Santiago García
President



Professional Schools in Portugal

VET schools were created in 1989 and Institutionalized in the educational system as a whole, after the year 2005.

Initially created by the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Labour, it was considered an important social and educational innovation, as well as an alternative to secondary schools of regular education.

It delivers professional courses offering dual certification - academic and professional - awarding a diploma of level 4 (European Union's Qualification Framework). The learning carried out in these courses emphasizes the development of competences for the exercise of a profession, in articulation with the local business sector, and preparation for post-secondary education or higher education.

The curricular is organized by modules, which allows for greater flexibility and respect for students' learning rhythms. Its syllabus include three components of training:

- Sociocultural;
- Scientific;
- Technique.

With a duration of three years and between 3100 and 3600 hours of training, professional courses include traineeships in labour context (which can be developed throughout the course on in the last year) and a final evaluation to an individual project made by students in the last year of the course called Proof of Personal Aptitude. It integrates all the knowledge and skills acquired throughout the course and consists in the presentation and defence, before a jury, of a project in the form of material or intellectual product, intervention or activity. The student also has to develop a final report of realization and critical appreciation demonstrating what he/she acquired through the professional training.

Beyond their core activity, Professional Schools also provide training for adult education and qualification, skills recognition and accreditation (RVC), and take part in projects aimed at helping disabled people, enhancing equity and fighting social exclusion. Professional Schools enhance development strategies in their contexts, actively working with regional and local authorities and other economic and social stakeholders, and establishing close links with business environment and employers, thus enabling on-the-job training as a strong component in education offer.

Many of Professional Schools have established networks of business organizations, either of their own or through strategic partnerships with employers, thus offering their students a wide range of opportunities to share school activities and real life working experience, and subsequently helping them to smoothly move to the labour market.

Luis Costa
SC of Efvvet



FROM ERASMUS TO ERASMUS+

We are celebrating the 30th anniversary of the Erasmus Programme in 2017 - a milestone for Europe!

The Erasmus+ programme addresses many key concerns of young people in Europe and beyond. We have a lot to share with you this year – so stay tuned to learn more about how the programme helps to tackle these issues and contribute with your own ideas! Throughout 2017 we will explore different themes relating to key social, economic, educational and cultural developments. In February, we take a closer look at social inclusion and integration.
look at social inclusion and integration.

[READ MORE](#)

The European Pillar of Social Rights: going forward together event in Brussels

Representatives from EU institutions, Ministers from Member States, and civil society representatives gathered at the European Commission on 23 January 2017 to discuss the European Pillar of Social Rights. The Pillar aims to address the realities of a changing European society, while helping member states to support citizens in this time of development.

Precarious work as well as new kinds of work such as the platform economy mean that young people are totally cut off from social protection – increasing their risk of being in poverty and social exclusion. As discussed in the workshop on the Future of Work, the fact that new business models and technology are developing fast, is not an excuse – legislation must be adapted, and abuses must be called out, to ensure the individual is protected throughout their lives.

Policy-makers highlighted the systemic discrimination that young people face in the labour market. Discrimination is also present in accessing other social services, such as health and housing – which means young people are further from becoming autonomous and independent. These issues must be tackled by the European Pillar of Social Rights to ensure an equal and inclusive society for all.

[For more Info - read here](#)

Valentina Chanina

Transfer of Innovation and Development of Innovation projects in which EfVET or its members are a partner



Business Competence in Europe.

Commercial schools from Lower Saxony/Germany make a determined step towards Europe

EBBD+ dissemination event for Lower Saxony/Germany a full success.

A majority of the business colleges accredited as European Schools in Lower Saxony attended the Regional Dissemination event of the Erasmus+ KA2 project "European Business Bacallaureate for all (EBBD+)" at the end of 2016 in Hameln, Lower Saxony. This event was supported by a representative of the federal state educational authority of the capital of the federal state of Lower Saxony in Germany. The event was located in and organised by the EBBD pilot school for Lower Saxony, the Handelslehranstalt Hameln.

International key speakers from Finland, the Netherlands and different regions of Germany presented the key elements of the certificate of excellence "EBBD+" during lectures and various workshops. Kaisa Nuutamo (manager at Helsinki Business College, Finland), representing both the registered association EBBD e.V. and the coordinating business college of the Erasmus+ KA2 project "European Business Baccalaureate for all (EBBD+)" gave an instructive and in-depth view on the project, its development, means of implementation and on the incorporation of elements of recognition of informal/non-formal learning including adult learning. In this way the certificate of excellence EBBD+ supports one of the key elements of the Europe 2020 strategy by enhancing skills and employability for graduates, leading to a modernisation in the VET sector across Europe and fostering the international dimension of education and training.

Peter Ketelaars, chairperson of the registered association EBBD e.V. and international coordinator of the Dutch Summa Business College in Eindhoven, another partner in the project EBBD+, took a closer look at the different constitutive components of this label of excellence before the participants came together in further workshops on the topics work placement abroad, accreditation requirements and procedure, serious business games/projects and implementation possibilities of CLIL considering the curricula predominant in the federal state.

One of the highlights was the re-accreditation of a business college from Ludwigshafen (Rhineland Palatinate), the BBS 1 Ludwigshafen, by the chairperson of EBBD e.V., thus proving and illustrating the sustainability of this concept.

The convincing conception of the certificate of excellence EBBD+ led the participants of this event to spontaneously found a regional network of schools thriving to be accredited as EBBD schools. Schools already accredited are also members of this regional network and thus can hand on their experience, expertise and competence to those setting out to reaching this higher degree of excellence.

At the end of the day all participants left Hamelin with the strong intention to be a part of this development - EBBD e.V. is looking forward to greeting these new members.



Ute Schmitt and Peter Ketelaars

The project number of EBBD+ is: 2014-1-FI01-KA202-000880

Meeting e-MOTIVE in Brussels

EfVET held its 3rd e-MOTIVE meeting in Brussels. The methodology is being nearly completed and all partners will translate the methodology to their respective languages, when the final version is available. Another goal is creation of an information system so higher VET institutions will follow a common standard for the description of their study programmes, their curricula in the European level following the EQF system and other European standards. This way transparency and comparison between VET systems across Europe will be easier.

The e-Motive matrix have already nearly 100 references is higher VET programmes from 11 countries, 46 VET colleges and 14 professional fields. The partners will continue gathering information, focusing especially on the on these countries with no references included yes: e.g. Germany, Austria and Croatia.

Last month 6 Spanish students and 7 Italian students have virtually worked together. Under the supervision of their corresponding teachers from La Salle Berrozpe (ES), Egibide (ES) and ITS Maker (IT), the students have been using different ICT tools to communicate with each other and to carry out their work as a team. It has been a hard work both for the students and the teachers, as they had to make changes in the organisation of the classes and they needed to overcome the fact of being physically separated to make a successful project.

Visit our website: <http://e-motive.vet/>



E-Motive Multiplier event on the 28 March 2017 in Brussels

We would like to invite you to our next **E-Motive Multiplier event on the 28 March 2017 in Brussels**. This event will be kindly hosted by the Regione Emilia-Romagna Representation to the EU (21, rue Montoyer, B-1000 Brussels).

Read more



EfVET ME_
E-MOTIVE_programn

Contact as soon as possible:

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SHINE - High Vocational Education & Training excellence supporting growth, innovation, competitiveness (Erasmus + Project)

We would like to invite you to our next **SHINE Multiplier event on the 28 March 2017 in Brussels**. This event will be kindly hosted by the Regione Emilia-Romagna Representation to the EU (21, rue Montoyer, B-1000 Brussels).

The European Union needs competences, innovation, balanced and integrated territory development in order to boost its growth. Higher Vocational Education and Training (HVET), especially for qualifications around EQF level 5, has a relevant role, and a tremendous potential to that aim.

SHINE targets actors governing and managing HVET programmes, as well as students, aiming at bridging the gap among local economic contexts and goals set by corresponding regional Smart Specialization Strategies, by acknowledging the role and innovative potential of high-level technical professional profiles.

Please register [here](#), and attached the draft agenda for this event.

EfvET

Valentina Chanina
Rue d'Arlon 40, B-1000 Brussels, Belgium

Read more



SHINE_programme_
Brussels (1).pdf



Support for small and medium sized enterprises engaging in apprenticeships: Regional Apprenticeship Alliances for SMEs

The 2nd project meeting of RAISE project held in Lisburn (UK) 23rd and 24th February 2017. The meeting was hosted by Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council. The partner has discussed on document containing guidelines for the establishment & facilitation of Regional Alliances. The partners researched four key questions in their respective regions:

- What materials or practical tools are available to SMEs in your country to become apprentice employers?

- What materials or practical tools are available to intermediaries in their country to support SMEs to become apprentice employers?
- Are there any Training and Mentoring Programmes or Alliances in place to support SMEs engage in apprenticeships?

What does country's road map look like in term of employing an apprentice?

We received a few responses (Spain, Poland, Northern Ireland, Ireland, France) and for example: in Poland there is a huge reform in education systems, Ireland: that the

Apprenticeship Council was set up in 2014 tasked with the expansion of Apprenticeship into new sectors of the economy & mapping out the sectors where new apprenticeships can make a real difference to both employers and employees.

We also introduced the new European Platform (supported by BDF and NCC) that will be an interactive website with the following functions:

Where people can exchange, talk and learn from each other on the theme of best practice SME apprenticeships

Easy access to all information resources, practical tools & online learning modules
Handy tools, organizations & people.

The all guides and materials will be soon available on our website:

www.apprenticeshipalliances.eu



TOUR4ALL

TOUR4ALL project aims to compile information related to the Accessible Tourism which can be defined as tourism and travel that is accessible to all people, with disabilities or not, including those with mobility, hearing, sight, cognitive, older people and those with temporary disabilities. We would like kindly ask you to take a few minutes to fill out the questionnaire [here](#)

All answers are confidential and will be used to this purpose only

Best regards,

EfVET

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5 ways to improve your teaching workshop

Teachers, Trainers and Lecturers

Join us for an afternoon event to explore the immense potential of mobile and digital learning!

How will you benefit?

- Learn intuitive powerful tools for engaging students.
- Hear about the latest innovations in teaching methods and pedagogy.
- Improve your digital literacy enormously.
- Experience fantastic new collaboration tools.

Who needs to attend?

This event will be highly valuable for anyone involved in teaching/ training in vocational, adult and higher education or who works with external collaborators.

Who are we?

We are MODERN (The Mobile & Digital E-learning project). We aim to:

- Provide educators with a convenient and highly usable audit of the most innovative mobile learning tools available today.
- Offer clear guidelines on which tool offers the best solution to achieving pedagogical objectives.
- Educate educators on innovative teaching methods and practices.

<http://www.modern.pm>

Click here [Event Brite](#) to reserve your place now!

Event to be held at the following time, date and location:

Thursday, 23 March 2017 from 14:00 to 16:30 (GMT)

East Belfast Enterprise

68-72 Newtownards Road

BT4 1GW

Belfast

United Kingdom

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