



## WS3 SCHOOL-ENTERPRISE RELATIONSHIP

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### **EfVET Workshop Framework**

“Work-based learning is at the heart of VET. This workshop aims at gathering VET providers whose training approaches is based on students producing real products for real customers in the same locality or region and those who promote apprenticeship programmes across many of their education and training courses. The relationship between schools and enterprise today is necessary to ensure that the speed of change in industry seeps through the education and training structures in VET schools and Colleges. Without this relationship, schools will be cut off from the real world of work and risk preparing students for a world of work of employment which doesn’t exist anymore. Apprenticeship programmes are also putting at risk the knowledge and experience of teachers and mentors in vocational schools and colleges. The experience gained by students in apprenticeship programmes must be complimented with bespoke teacher training programmes in industry. Teachers in VET cannot afford to lose contact with industry. The workshop will aim at sharing some of the experiences teachers had had following students after an apprenticeship programme or a prolonged experience in industry. Will the link with industry transform learners and teachers into real partners in education and training? This is the challenge that VET schools and colleges will face when large number of their learners are exposed to real work in real work environments. Meeting this challenge is one of the frontiers of the future of VET.”

### **The workshop**

More than 40 participants from more than 7 countries discussed and shared experiences actively under the moderation of Ana Ribeiro.

The workshop intended to collect different opinions with three basic drivers:

1. What are the main activities you think should be undertaken in 2020?
2. Where do you need inputs or support from EfVET delegates?
3. What are your top 2 recommendations for EfVET steering committee?

The workshop discussion was introduced by the presentation of a real case made by Ana Ribeiro entitle “**FROM BIRTH TO ADULTHOOD OR FROM DATING TO WEEDING CONCEPT.**”

The audience discussed and shared experiences on the three topics and the main conclusions and suggestions were:

**1. What are the main activities you think should be undertaken in 2020?**

- Develop programmes for closer cooperation between schools and enterprises based on:
  - How to get enterprises involved in the process;
  - Find ways/mechanisms showing the benefits of hosting students (national and foreigners) and develop programmes/curricula together;
  - The need for Schools and companies have to work together, if companies want to receive the employees they want;
  - What can we offer students together with companies in order to help them go forward and further?
  - Finding mechanisms of enterprises having benefits of joining a vet provider (e.g. fewer taxes; etc)
  - The schools exist to serve the companies and the economy;
  - Schools should visit the companies often;
  - Understanding what is missing in the companies;
  - Understanding the expertise needed in the companies that are not taught at schools yet;
  - To narrow the gap;
  - The fact that the companies are not much interested in the certificates but in the know-how and in Working skills;
  - The requirement from the companies are employees full of skills, competences
  - The need for develop a full & complete employee;
  - The mechanisms to take the schools (teachers) to the enterprises more often
  - Bringing the enterprises to schools more often, whenever possible - mechanisms to attract enterprises to go to schools.
  - The difficulty in transmitting to the companies what the students have learned at schools;
  - Developing a certificate with a list of competences achieved;
  - Producing different certificates for different students.
  - Finding the right profile of company for the right student – improve the matching process

**2. Where do you need inputs or support from EfVET delegates?**

EfVET should invest in:

- the sharing of good practices;
- involving the enterprises in the process of bridging the gap with education;
- sharing among the enterprises the benefits of hosting students;
- finding ways of increasing and improving communication and team work among the EfVET participants (not only once a year, in October), including enterprises representatives. Networking: launching thematic teams (for email / forum conversations/discussions);
- increasing the sharing of good local practices & experiences in a more sustainable way;

- improving the communication and dissemination of information process of the platform Basecamp;
- Finding a way of overcoming the difficulty from the part of enterprises in hosting students from abroad – language barriers – what support can we get from EfVET in this field? Financial support?
- The possibility of enterprises joining EfVET without paying fees or being invited by schools to join the events. They are equal partners in the VET system. Enterprises can have influence in the VET policy if they join EfVET;
- Finding platforms of understanding between parts - The enterprises run the show, not the schools. The system is very strict, not flexible; We have to find common challenges; they have to see the value of the cooperating and attending some events. They need skilled workers;
- Overcame the difficulties for smaller companies to participate.
- Policies for schools to invite companies to join next EfVET events.

### **3. What are your top 2 recommendations for EfVET steering committee?**

- Transversal model of validation and certification of competences; allow for the recognition of competences and learning results in all countries;
- Simplification of the mobilities process; MoU / Europass, etc – simpler documents, easy to read and understand; easy paperwork process; work towards simplification, digitalization and standardisation. We need to speak the companies' language; what is the importance of Europass document for companies? We need to use the same language and simplify the process. The same for insurance issues: in some countries, they only accept their own national insurance policy, not foreign insurance policies
- Invite / Accept local/regional/national enterprises in future EfVETs (for free?).
- Organize in next EfVET conferences Workshops involving companies in sharing, e.g. their experience in the hosting of students, etc
- Combine workshops of future skills and cooperation together with schools and companies.
- Invite companies to be involved in workshops and roundtables
- The importance of having the same requirements in all countries in the hosting of students (in some countries, it is needed to be accredited by a national body – Quality criteria - in order to host students and they can only send abroad students to companies that are accredited)