



CSR Workshop on Education

Mr Tommaso Grimaldi, General Secretary of EVTA (the European Vocational Training Association) www.evta.eu

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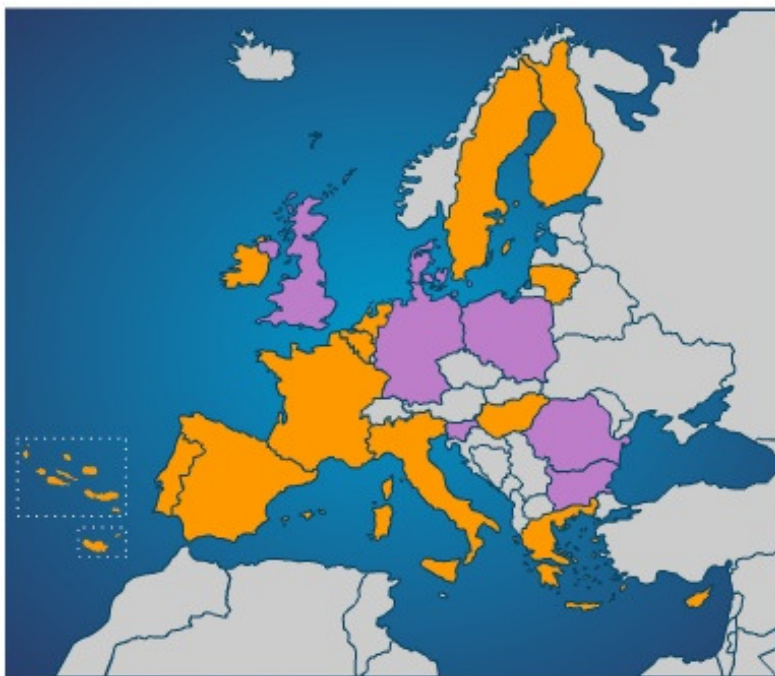


European Vocational Training Association

The largest VET European community



www.evta.eu



EVTA is an extensive network, bringing together experts in mobility, lifelong learning strategies and languages, as well as specialists in different professional sectors.

It aims to support and guide its members and partners towards a more efficient and sustainable knowledge economy. A place where public and private bodies meet.

Some partners: Euranec, ILO, Eucis-LLL...



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Improving skills / Education and training / Market needs



- **Upskilling of working population:**
 - Integration of New skills for new jobs
 - Anticipation of restructuring : creation of a toolbox for all involved actors (VET providers, employment agencies, local authorities, companies, sectors...)
 - Sector based approach, work based learning
 - monitoring skills shortages
 - quality assurance
 - assessment of competences



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Learning mobility



- Creation, building and testing of a portal per sector for learning mobility:
 - Integration of certification and validation processes and tools: creating synergies between authorities, compatibility of national frameworks, active participation in the advisory group
 - Focus on the competence based approach
 - Development of sectoral specific language classes
 - Focus on quality through integration of CQAF
- EVTA represents the civil society in the advisory group of EQF



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Cultural expression and creativity



Our participation to Lifelong Learning:

- **Creativity and innovation:**

Publication “Bringing the spirit of Leonardo back to Leonardo”

- **Knowledge management:**

Dissemination & exploitation of information and resources

- EVTA is part of EUCIS-LLL, **the platform of civil society for lifelong learning;**

Contribution to the Liaison group EESC’s publication “Renewed Lisbon strategy”

- **Focus on digital divide**

No exclusion of older generation, ICT and internet learning to grandparents by grandchildren



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Some of the EVTA Partnerships

- **European Youth Forum:**
 - ✓ Symposium on Youth Employment
- **EUCIS-LLL; the European Civil Society platform on Lifelong Learning:**
 - ✓ gathers 19 European networks working in education and training;
 - ✓ citizens involvement;
 - ✓ participation in LLL



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Some of the EVTA Partnerships

- **OBESSU**; Organizing Bureau of European School Student Unions
- **EURANEC**; the European Network of Regions for Anticipation of Economic changes:
 - ✓ managing competences and competencies;
 - ✓ developing strategic human resources;
 - ✓ managing vocational and education training and lifelong learning



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Sectors' New Skills for New Jobs Distribution and Trade



- **Current trends.** The sector has grown by 3% in the EU, with a growth of 5.4% in the new Member States in 1995-2006.
- **Changes in this sector** due to: Internet, e-commerce and the advanced application of ICTs.
- **Obstacles to such changes:** low pay-low skills jobs, extreme labour flexibility, lack of natural resources like oil and lack of trust in Internet shopping.



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Sectors' New Skills for New Jobs Distribution and Trade



- **Future skills needs.** e-skills, soft skills (entrepreneurship, social skills, self-management skills). Skills to adapt and learn new competences, Lifelong Learning.
- **Improve the image of the sector:** by attracting younger workers and decreasing the environmental impact.



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European Sector Councils on Jobs and skills *(project of establishment)*



- Exchange information, **develop cooperation** between existing institutions
- Establish a **network** of existing national skills councils and observatories (or equivalent)
- Do not create a European Observatory but develop **cooperation between national observatories**



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« Partnerships between education establishments and employers »

EESC Opinion SOC/325

European Economic and Social Committee, Section for

Employment, Social Affairs and Citizenship, Opinion (03/09)

EVTA was nominated expert for Group III

- Business and education establishments: different goals, but partnership= win win relationship:
 - Business can offer their **knowledge of market needs** thus enabling education and training to be more effectively targeted
 - Education establishments have assets in terms of **technical and scientific know-how** that could be put to practical use.



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« Partnerships between education establishments and employers »

EESC Opinion SOC/325

- Challenges for businesses and education establishments:
 - In the current recession it is vital to rekindle the potential of such partnerships, given that any successful economic recovery is contingent on **education and training that is more suited to the needs of the labour market** and on businesses making better use of skills and human resources.



« Partnerships between education establishments and employers »



EESC Opinion SOC/325

- Challenges for businesses and education establishments:
 - Partnerships should be **multifaceted** : At the local level: companies, education establishments and local authorities
 - Because change is ongoing and rapid, findings need to be kept permanently up to date, with ongoing training, re-learning and maintenance of professional skills and qualifications , **Lifelong Learning** has become a necessity for everyone.



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« Partnerships between education establishments and employers »

EESC Opinion SOC/325

- Summary and Recommendations:

- Not enough Partnerships;
- Importance of **personal relations** in making partnerships work effectively;
- Need to **support SMEs** (Flexibility, main engine of job creation, develop entrepreneurship and creativity)



« Partnerships between education establishments and employers »



EESC Opinion SOC/325

- Summary and Recommendations:
- Need to launch a European Process, a fairly broad **European reference framework enabling** grassroots operators to put innovative measures in place at local and national level:
 - Urging Members States to step up **investment in education and such partnerships**
 - Organising **exchanges of best practices and formulating technical guidelines**
 - Developing **joint projects** (ex: joint reference systems for degree)
 - **Cross-Mobility programmes** (teachers, pupils, schools and employers' organisations)



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Concrete examples through the EVTA Network



- **Kenwerk (training institute, the Netherlands)**
 - **Adult and Vocational Education Act** demands a good tuning between secondary vocational education and the industry
 - Kenwerk is **building a bridge between education and the industry**, both on a regional and national level.
 - Is keeping the **register of internationally recognised learning establishments.**

- **FAS (training institute, Ireland)**
 - **Excellence Through People award**
 - FAS provides an **advisory service for industry**, and supports **community based approach**



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Concrete examples through the EVTA Network



- **AIKE (training institute, Finland)**
 - _ The competence based approach
- **EUCEN (European Universities Continuing Education Network)**
 - _ Validation of Learning through Experiences

