



**EUROPEAN
YEAR OF
SKILLS**

Erasmus+ Centres of Vocational Excellence

*Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs & Inclusion
Unit B.3 - Vocational Education and Training, CEDEFOP*

The policy framework



EUROPEAN SKILLS AGENDA

Skills for jobs

July 2020
#EUSkillsAgenda

The EU needs a skills revolution to ensure people can thrive in the green and digital transitions, and to help in the recovery from the coronavirus pandemic.



European Education Area



European Commission

Education, training and life-long learning

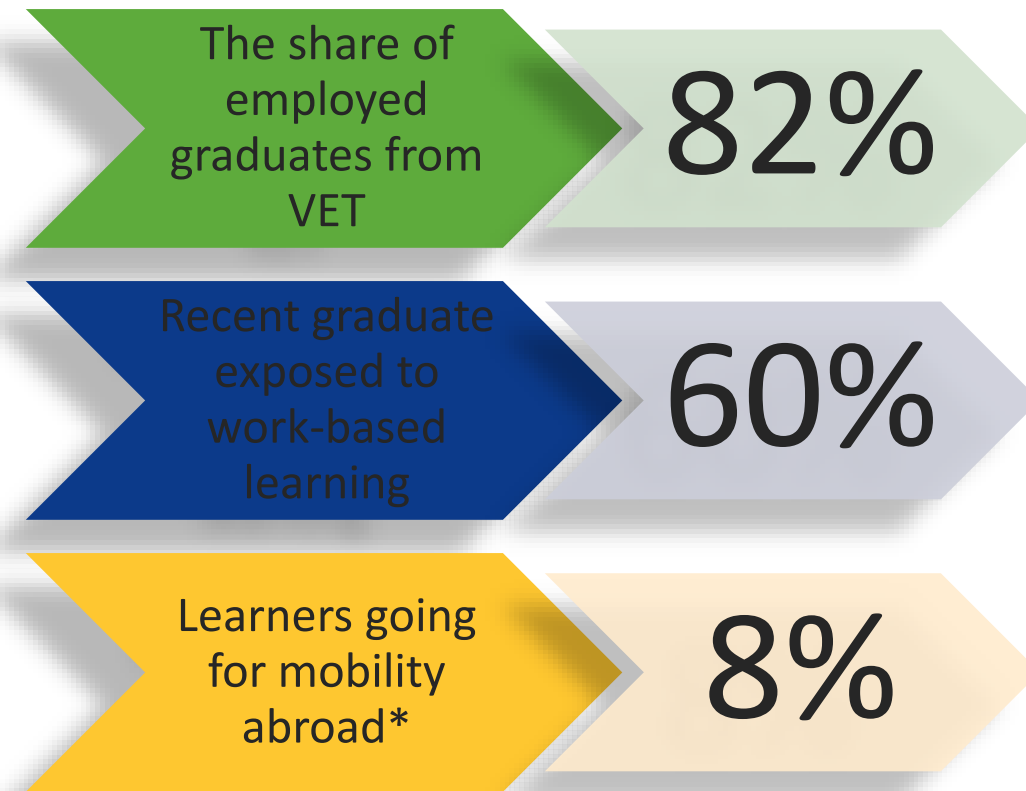
Vocational education and training
Skills for today and for the future

Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion

See brochure on VET:
[Vocational education and training:
Skills for today and for the future](#)

PROJECTS SHOULD CONTRIBUTE TO THE EU POLICY FRAMEWORK

2020 Council Recommendation on VET: to be fit for the future VET should be:



* In the [Proposal for a Council Recommendation 'Europe on the Move' – learning mobility opportunities for everyone](#) of 17 November 2023, the European Commission has proposed a new target for learning mobility of 15%.



Vocational education and training is more important than ever. Providing people with the skills they need and that help them find a quality job, is one of our central responses to the recover, and key for the green and digital transitions.

Our initiatives on vocational excellence will continue to be based on innovation, transnational collaboration and social fairness.

*Nicolas Schmit,
Commissioner for Jobs and Social
Rights*

Centres of Vocational Excellence in a nutshell



The Goal

VET Excellence

- Innovative and responsive VET institutions capable of **rapidly adapting skills provision** to evolving economic and social needs, including the **digital and green transitions**

The partners

VET institutions, Universities of applied science, Research centres, Companies, Chambers, Professional or sector associations, Trade unions, Policy makers, Employment services, Regional development agencies, Municipalities, Qualification authorities, and others

How to get there

International collaborative networks of CoVEs

- **ACT LOCAL** – Establish strong local partnerships co-creating “**skills ecosystems**” for innovation, regional development, and social inclusion
- **THINK GLOBAL** – through **international collaborative networks** of CoVE in other countries to share experience and know-how, to foster mobility of learners and staff...

EU Support

Erasmus+ funding 2021-2027: €400 million for 100 CoVE networks

Technical support by the ETF: Build evidence, Facilitate networking, Tools & Guidelines

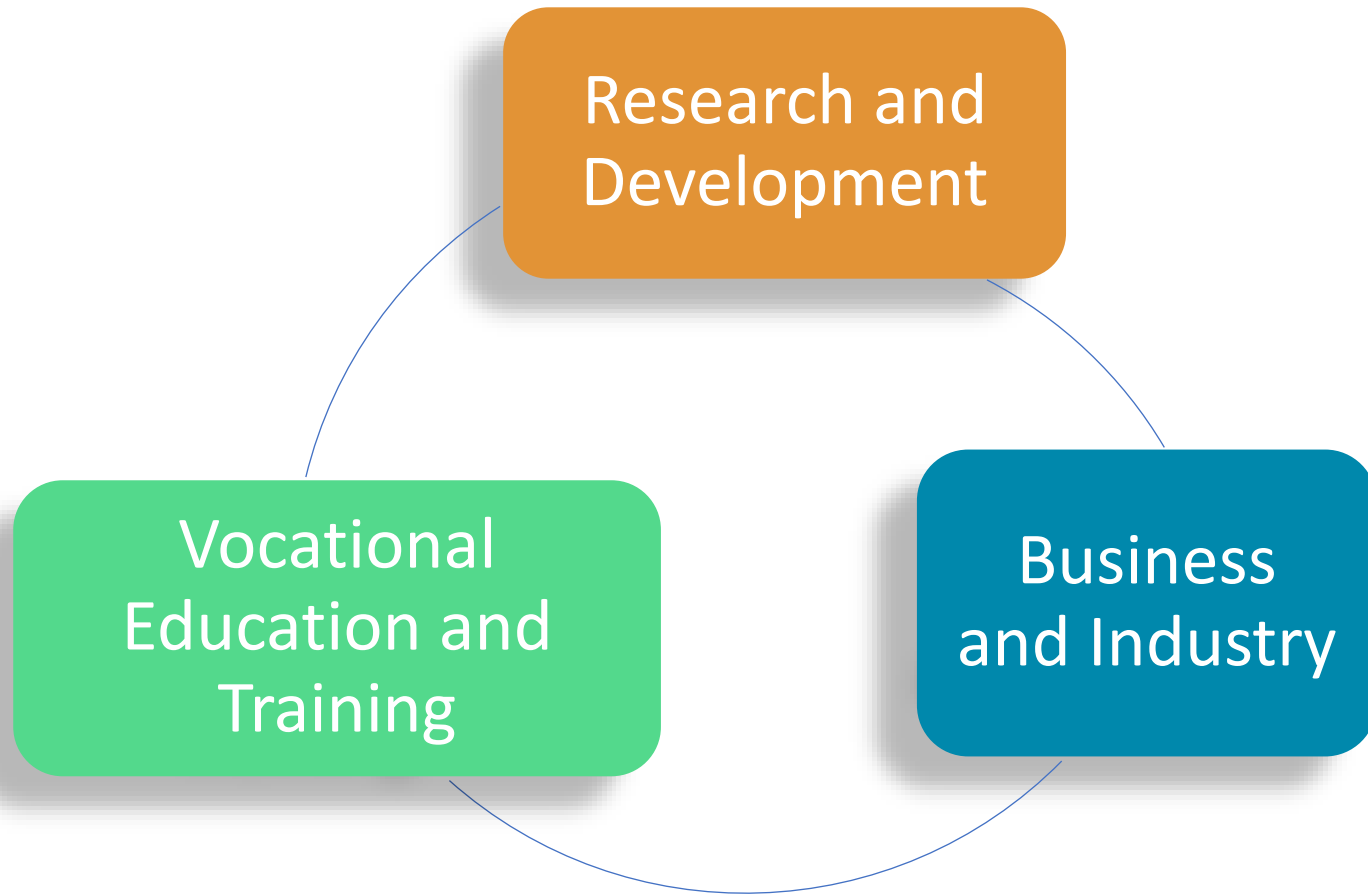
Centres of Vocational Excellence

Key success factors

- skills provision aligned with **strategic regional development**
- strong collaborative **partnerships**
- **comprehensive** set of Education and Training activities and services



CoVEs play a pro-active role in innovation through **applied research**



Knowledge Triangle



Typical activities of CoVEs: beyond traditional VET provision

Vocational Excellence

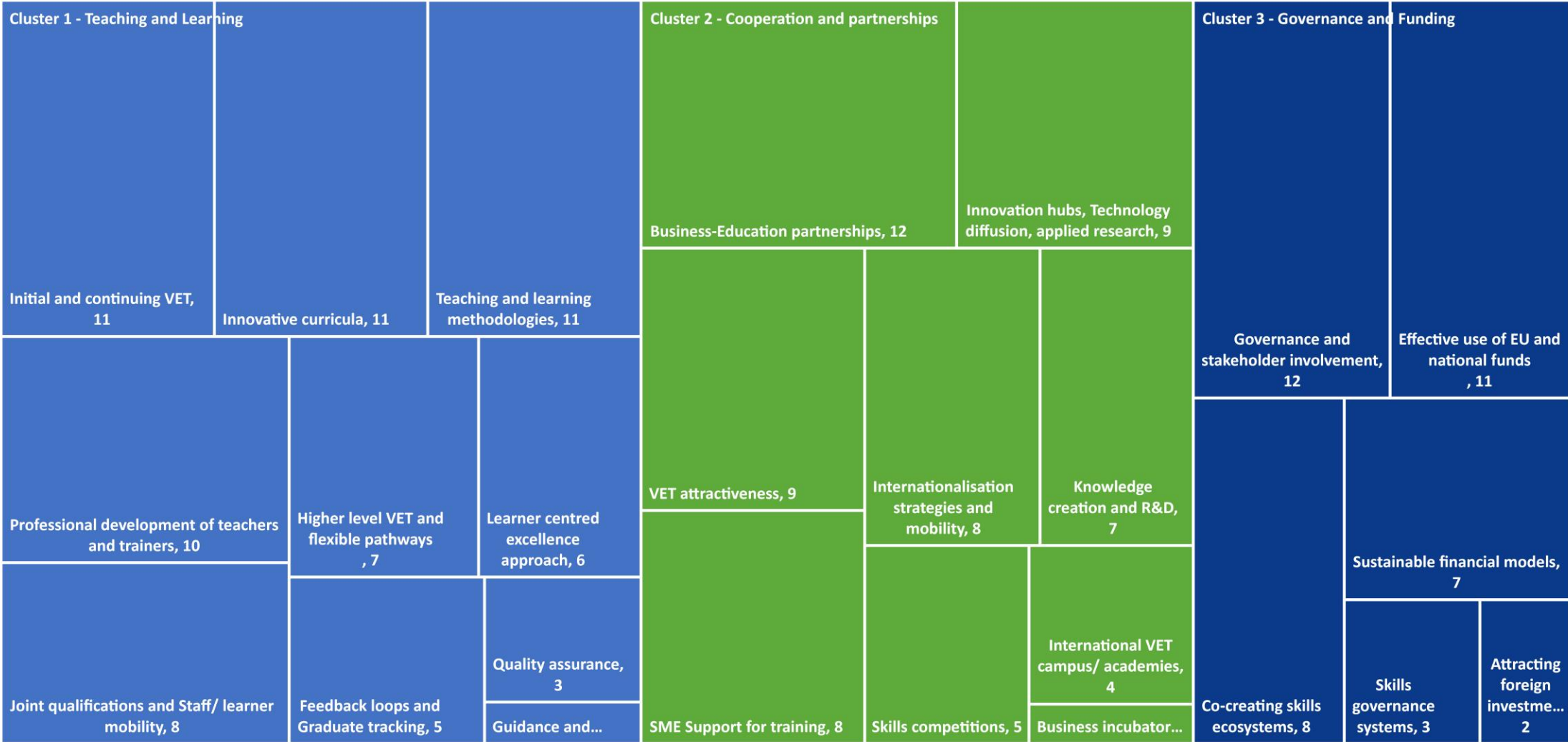
Cooperation & Partnerships

Governance & Funding

Teaching & Learning



Activities selected by the 2021 CoVEs projects



Activities selected by the 2022 CoVEs projects

Cluster 1 - Teaching and learning				Cluster 2 - Cooperation and partnerships				Cluster 3 - Governance and funding	
Initial and continuing VET, 13	Teaching and learning methodologies, 13	Higher level VET and flexible pathways, 11		Knowledge creation and R&D, 11		Business-Education partnerships, 11		Effective use of EU and national funds, 12	Governance and stakeholder involvement, 11
Innovative curricula, 10	Joint qualifications and staff/learner mobility, 9	Professional development of teachers and trainers, 9		Innovation hubs, technology diffusion, applied research, 11		SME support for training, 9			
				Learner centred excellence approach, 10	Quality assurance, 9	Guidance and validation, 5	Feedback loops and graduate tracking, 5	VET attractiveness and awareness, 9	International VET campus/academies, 9
Business incubators and entreprene..., 4	Skills competitions, 4	Sustainable financial models, 9	Attra... of forei... inves... 2						

Centres of Vocational Excellence: Status for the implementation of the initiative

Call Year	2019(*)	2020(*)	2021	2022	2023	2024
Budget (MEUR)	5	28	46	48	56	56
Total number of applications	16	55	84	76	109	DDL 7 May 2024
Number of eligible applications	15	48	83	61	96	
Number of funded projects	5	7	13	13	15 (under finalisation)	
Success rate (number of project selected/number of eligible applications)	33,3%	14,6%	15,6%	21,3%	N/A (indicatively 15,6%)	
Number of countries involved in applications	27	49	55	54	64	
Number of countries involved in selected projects	20	25	37	30	N/A	
Number of organisations involved in selected projects	54	162	356	322	N/A	

* The 2019 and 2020 calls were pilot calls under the previous Erasmus+ programme period. The 2019 pilot call was for 2-year projects, which are now finished.

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Projects selected in the Erasmus+ 2020 pilot call (4 years duration)



Microelectronics
<https://ecovem.eu/>



Furniture and Wood
<https://www.allview.eu/>



Finfish industry
<http://www.bridges.eu/>



Innovation in the Green Economy
<https://3-loe.eu/>



Green Innovation
<http://www.greenovet.eu/>



Inclusive excellence
<https://www.thegiveproject.eu/>



Urban Greening
<https://www.platformurbangreening.eu/>

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Projects selected in the Erasmus+ 2021 call (4 years duration)



Offshore Renewable Energy
<https://t-shore.eu>



Clean and sustainable energy
<https://secove-project.eu>



Sustainable energy
<https://www.seedeuproject.eu/>



Water sector
<https://povewater.eu>



Sustainability for business transformation
<https://projectcatalyst.eu>



Artificial Intelligence, Virtual reality, and Social innovation
<https://eulep.eu>



Dairy agri-food
<https://aedil.org>



Multifunctional Agriculture
<https://agrinext-project.eu>



Advanced manufacturing
<https://lcamp.eu>



Arts and Crafts
<https://mosaiceuproject.eu>



Fashion, textiles and apparel industries
<https://fea-vee.eu>



Health care
<https://euveca.eu>



Tourism
<https://tour-x.eu>

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Projects selected in the Erasmus+ 2022 call (4 years duration)



EXCEED

<https://exceed-cove.eu/>



habitable
Alliance of Centres of Excellence in
Vocational Training for Sustainable Habitat

HABITABLE

<https://habitable-cove.eu/>



BuildSkills academy

<http://buildskills.nextyou.eu/>



H2 Excellence

<https://h2excellence.eu/>



TEAM#UP

<https://www.teamup2restore.eu/>



AgriFood4Future

<https://agrifood4future.com/>



ACCESS CoVE

<https://accesscove.org/>



Care about IT

<https://careaboutit.eu/>



AI4VET4AI

<https://www.ai4vet4ai.eu/>



TEACH4SD

<https://teach4sd.eu/>



AILEEN

<https://aileencove.eu/>



Auto CoVE 2.0

<https://www.autocove.eu/>



EE4M

<http://ee4m.eu/>

Forum on Vocational Excellence

- Annual event organised by the [Community of Practice](#), a bottom-up initiative by the Erasmus+ CoVEs
 - 2022: [San Sebastian](#)
 - 2023: [Amsterdam](#)
 - 2024: Lyon on 10-12 September, parallel to the World Final of the Worldskills!



Important features of the CoVE projects

- Foster the full potential of VET institutions to play a proactive role in support of growth and innovation
- Set up a long-term action plan for the progressive roll-out of project deliverables after the project has finished
- Key role of public authorities for impact, visibility and dissemination
- Engage with companies and other employers in INNOVATIVE forms of partnerships
- Upward convergence: show benefits for organisations with less developed vocational excellence systems and their territories

Useful links

Erasmus+

[2024 Annual Work Programme Erasmus+](#)

[Erasmus+ Programme Guide 2024 \(Version 1\) | Erasmus+ \(europa.eu\)](#)

Information on the Centres of Vocational Excellence, including factsheets for all the projects:

[Centres of Vocational Excellence - Employment, Social Affairs & Inclusion - European Commission \(europa.eu\)](#)

Policy context

[Council Recommendation on vocational education and training \(VET\) for sustainable competitiveness, social fairness and resilience](#)

[Osnabrück Declaration on vocational education and training as an enabler of recovery and just transitions to digital and green economies](#)

[European Pillar of Social Rights - Building a fairer and more inclusive European Union - Employment, Social Affairs & Inclusion - European Commission \(europa.eu\)](#)

[Homepage | European Education Area \(europa.eu\)](#)

[VET skills for today and future \(europa.eu\)](#)