



Erasmus+ Centres of Vocational Excellence 2025

Skills ecosystems for innovation,
regional development, and social inclusion

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Council Recommendation on Vocational Education and Training (2020)



What are the objectives by 2025?

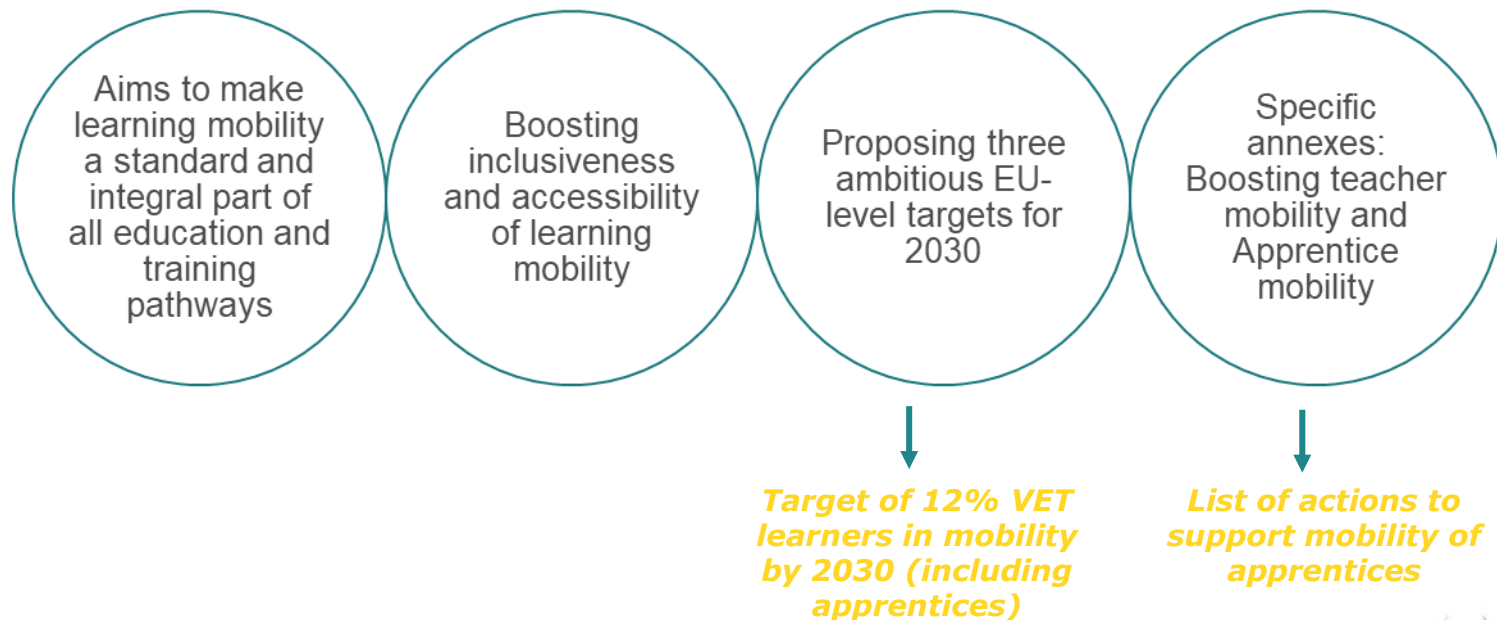
- The share of employed graduates from VET → 82%
- Recent graduate exposed to work-based learning → 60%
- Learners going for mobility abroad → 8% (updated in 2024)

National Implementation Plans and monitoring

[National Implementation Plans - European Commission](#)

Council Recommendation Europe on the Move (2024)

Four key features



Vocational Excellence

A holistic learner-centred approach in which VET:

- is an integrated part of **skills ecosystems**, contributing to regional development, innovation, smart specialisation and clusters strategies, as well as to specific value chains and industrial ecosystems
- is part of **knowledge triangles**, working closely with other education and training sectors, the scientific community, and business
- enables learners to acquire both vocational (job specific) as well as key competences through **high-quality provision** that is underpinned by quality assurance
- builds **innovative forms of partnerships** with the world of work, and is supported by the continuous professional development of teaching and training staff, innovative pedagogies, learner and staff mobility and VET internationalisation strategies

Erasmus+ Centres of Vocational Excellence

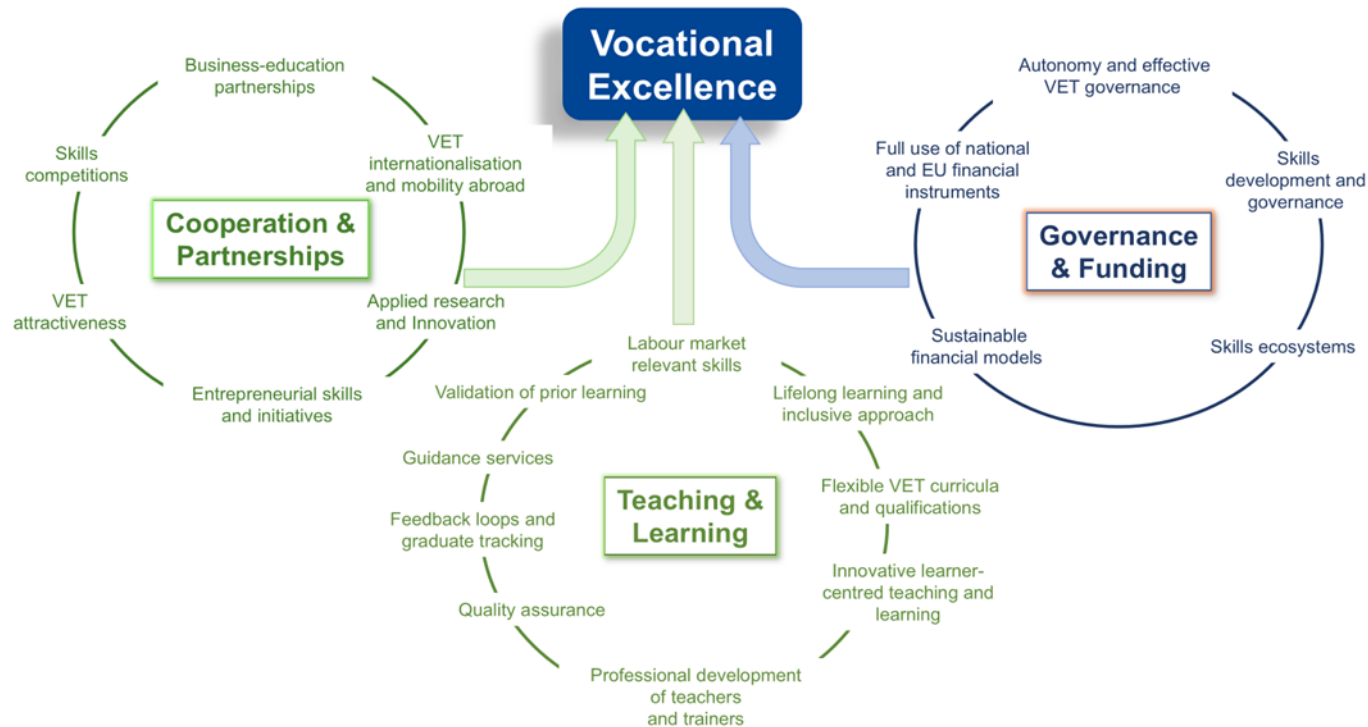
- The main focus is **the establishment and development of international collaborative networks** that bring together local and regional VET stakeholders (VET institutions, companies and other employers, social partners, authorities, higher education institutions, research institutes, etc.) in strong and broad partnerships, thereby creating **comprehensive skills ecosystems** for innovation, regional development, and social inclusion.
- **Objectives:**
 - To ensure high quality skills through **flexible and learner-centred VET provisions** that lead to quality employment and career-long opportunities, swiftly responding to the needs of an innovative, inclusive and sustainable economy as well as to societal needs;
 - To support and act as drivers for **local and regional development, innovation and social inclusion** in the context of the **green and digital transitions**;
 - To contribute to **upward convergence** on VET excellence, to increase the quality of VET at system level in more and more countries, and;
 - To ensure that outputs and results are taken into use and have **impact** beyond the project partner organisations and beyond the project period.

Key success factors

- Skills provisions aligned with **strategic regional development**
- Strong collaborative **partnerships**
- **Comprehensive** set of education and training activities and services



Typical activities of CoVEs: beyond traditional VET provision



CoVE call for proposals 2025

- **Budget: 60 million euro**
- **Change in eligible third countries not associated to the programme**
- **Participation of public authorities in the award criteria**
- **Engagement in the Community of Practice and cooperation with other CoVEs explicitly eligible**
- **More synergies with Pact for Skills and Blueprint**
- **Funding threshold: 75 points (of 100)**
- **Application deadline: Please refer to the CoVE Call on the Funding & Tenders portal**

Status for implementation of Erasmus+ CoVEs

- Indicative budget of **400 million euros** to fund 100 projects in the period 2021-2027
- In addition to the **57 projects** under the current Erasmus+ programme period, **12 pilot projects** were funded in 2019 and 2020.
- **Diversity** in terms of topics, sectors, size, geographical scope, etc.

Find information about existing projects [here](#).

* Includes reinforcements of budget

| Call Year | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
|---|-------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| Budget | 46 million* | 48 million | 56 million | 58 million* |
| Number of applications | 84 | 76 | 109 | 132 |
| Number of funded projects | 13 | 13 | 15 | 16 |
| Number of countries involved in applications | 55 | 54 | 64 | 63 |
| Number of countries involved in selected projects | 37 | 31 | 27 | 32 |

Erasmus+ CoVE Community of Practice

- The **Erasmus+ CoVE coordinators** meet on a regular basis to **share experiences** and **inspire and support** each other.
- The Community has initiated an annual **Forum on Vocational Excellence**.



Community of Practice Centres of Vocational Excellence

How to find project partners?

Resources:

- The [Partner search announcements](#) in the EU Funding & Tenders Portal (FTOP)
- The [CoVE match making map](#)
- The European Training Foundation (ETF) [Network for Excellence](#) (ENE)
- [EPALE](#) Community of European VET practitioners (membership required)

USEFUL LINKS

- [Council Recommendation of 24 November 2020 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](#)
- [National Implementation Plans for the 2020 Council Recommendation on VET and Osnabrück Declaration](#)
- [Vocational education and training: Skills for today and for the future](#)
- [Centres of Vocational Excellence - European Commission](#)
- [Community of Practice of Erasmus+ Centres of Vocational Excellence](#)
- [Internationalising vocational excellence | ETF](#)
- [CEDEFOP | European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training](#)
- [VET excellence and inclusion for the 21st century | CEDEFOP](#)
- [Council Recommendation 'Europe on the Move' – learning mobility opportunities for everyone \(2024\)](#)
- [Tackling labour and skills shortages in the EU - European Commission](#) (2024)
- [European Alliance for Apprenticeships - Employment, Social Affairs & Inclusion - European Commission \(europa.eu\)](#)
- [European Digital Credentials for Learning. | Europass](#)
- [European Skills Agenda - European Commission](#)
- [European Education Area](#)
- [EQAVET National Reference Points - European Commission](#)
- [Micro-credentials - European Education Area](#)



Thank you!