



Centres of Vocational Excellence

*Skills ecosystems for innovation,
regional development, and social inclusion*

*La apuesta de la Comisión Europea en la
excelencia de la FP*

Valladolid, Spain, 4-5 July 2022

Joao SANTOS

Senior expert

European Commission,

Directorate General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion

Unit B3 - Vocational Education and Training

joao.santos@ec.europa.eu



[linkedin.com/in/JoaoSantosEU](https://www.linkedin.com/in/JoaoSantosEU)



[@JoaoSantosEU](https://twitter.com/JoaoSantosEU)

[#EUVocationalExcellence](https://twitter.com/JoaoSantosEU)





”

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 recovery, 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.

#EUSkillsAgenda
#EUBridgetoJobs

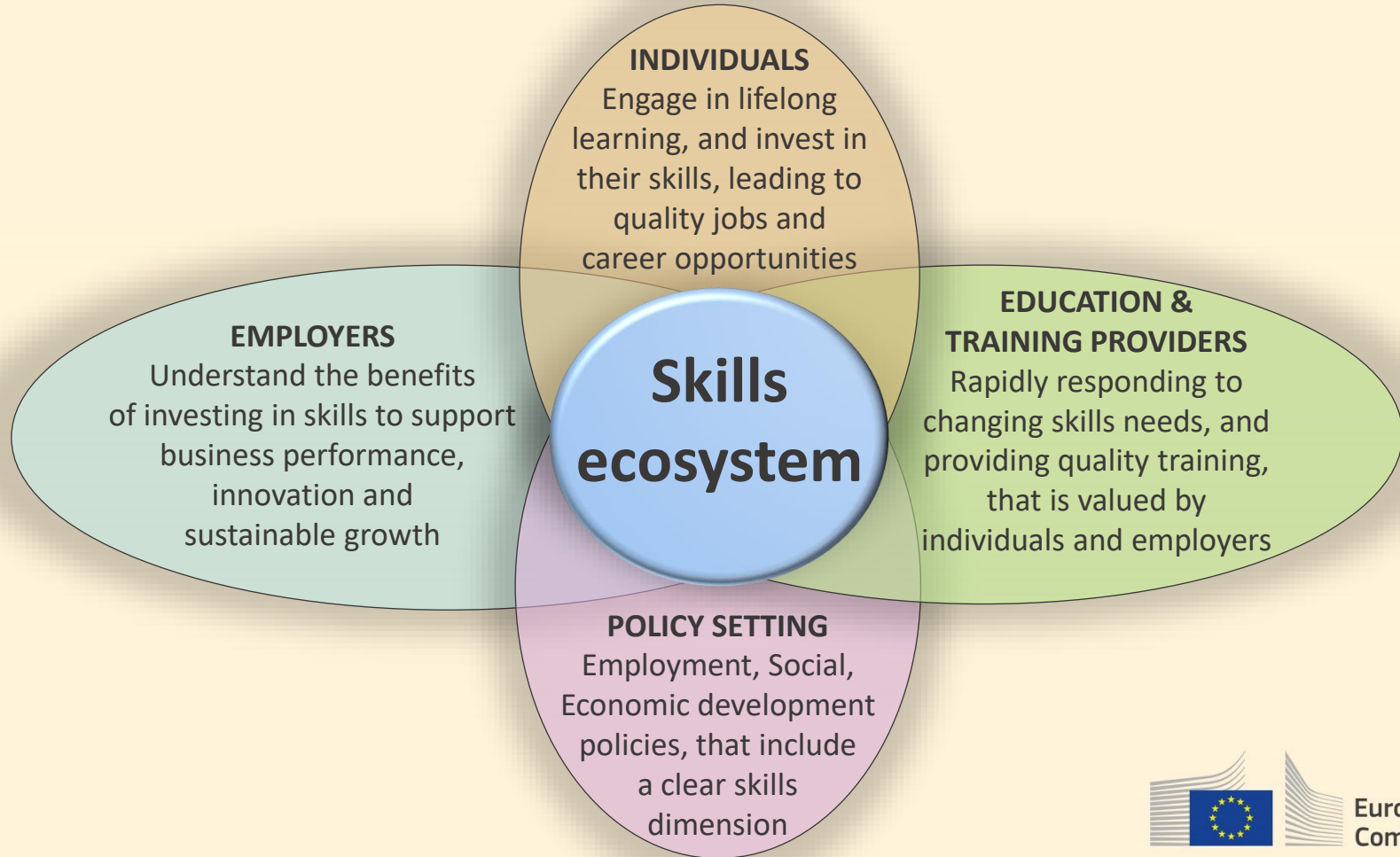
Nicolas Schmit

Commissioner | Jobs and Social Rights



European
Commission

Centres of Vocational Excellence (The CoVE concept <https://europa.eu/!cu83xr>)



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**

Centres of Vocational Excellence

The initiative 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

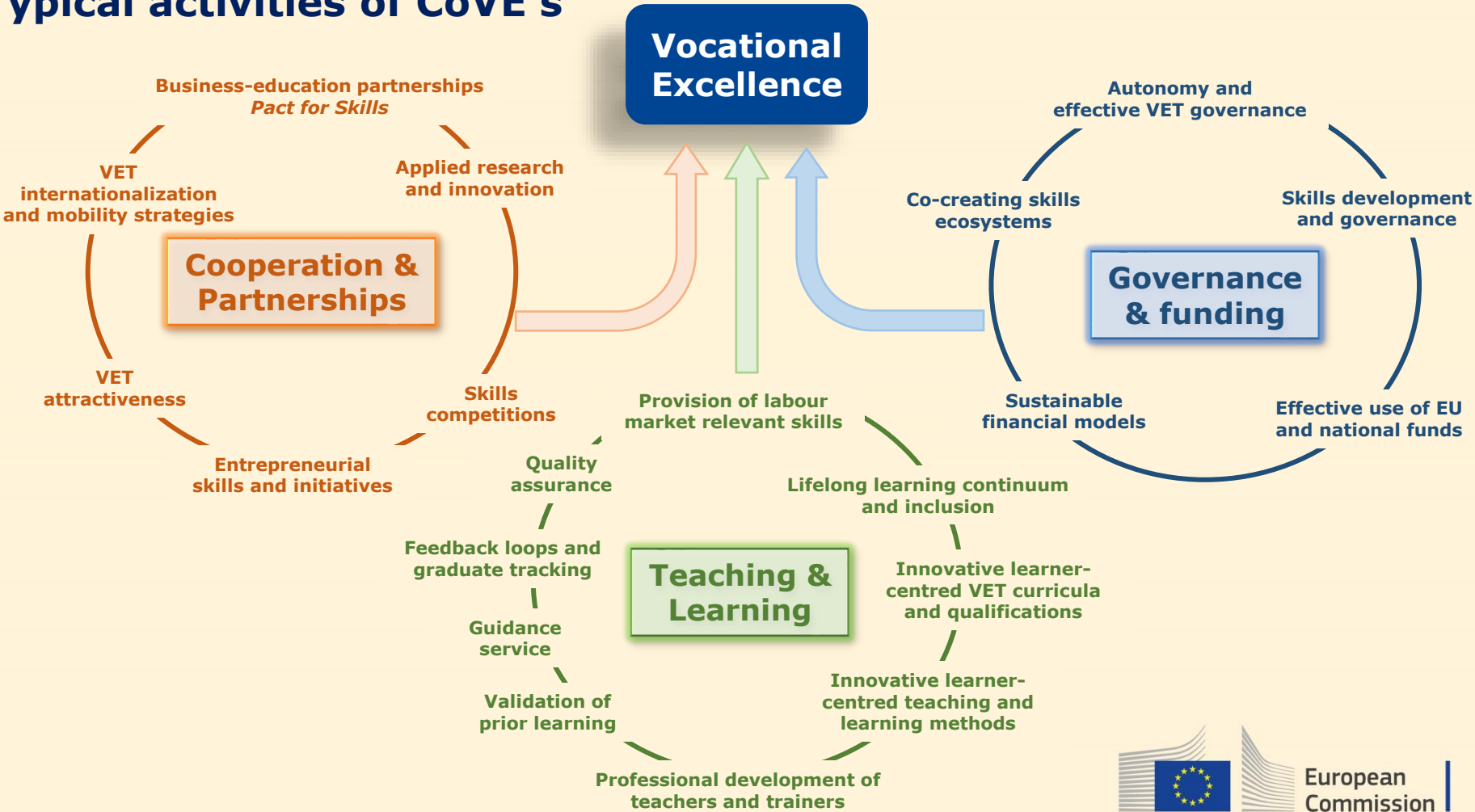
- **ACT LOCAL** – Establish strong local partnerships co-creating “**skills ecosystems**” for innovation, regional development, and social inclusion
- **THINK GLOBAL** – through **international collaborative networks** of CoVE in other countries to share experience and know-how, to foster mobility of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

EU Support

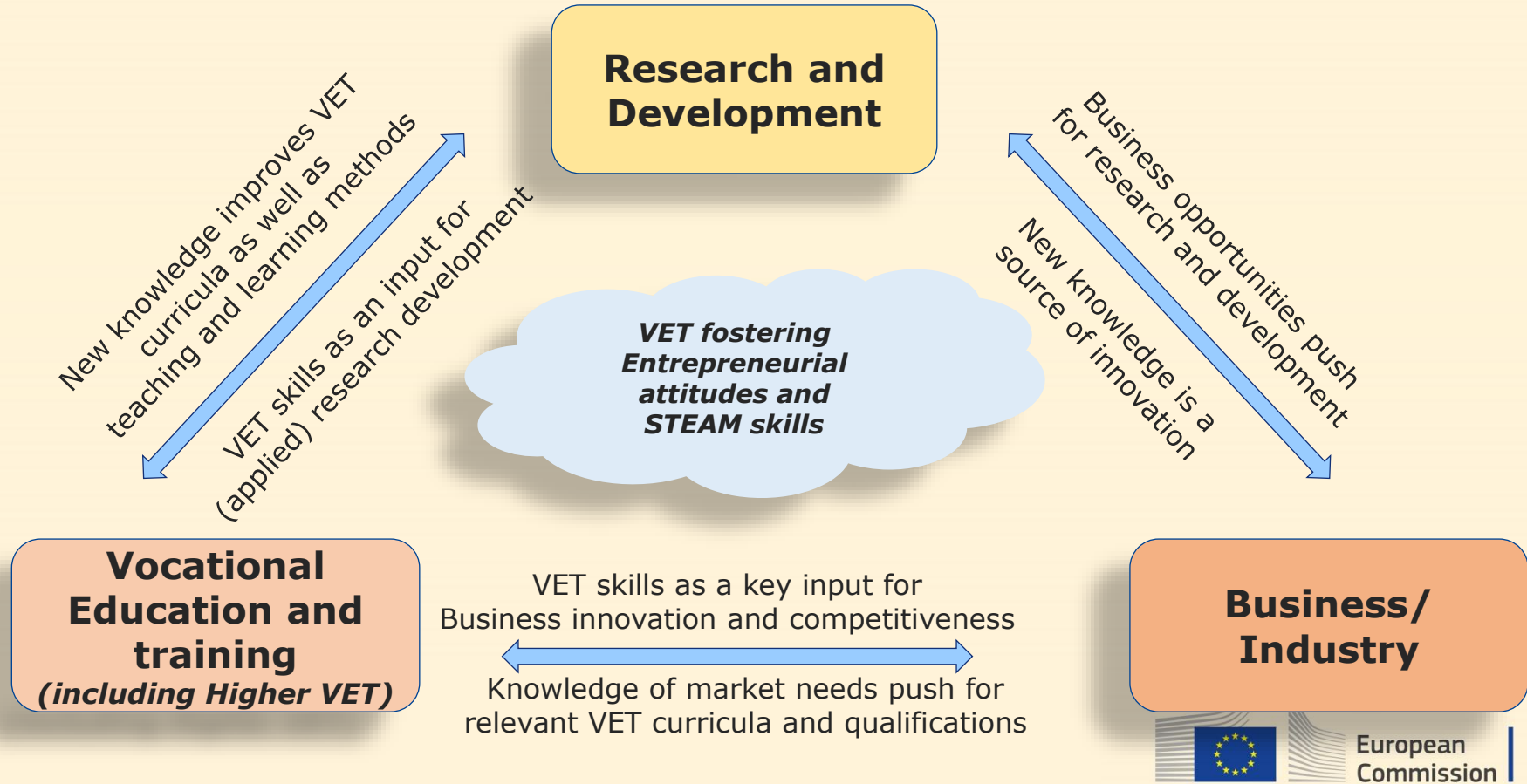
Erasmus+ funding 2021-2027: €400 million for 100 CoVE networks

Technical support: Build evidence, Facilitate networking, Tools & Guidelines...

Typical activities of CoVE's



CoVEs play a pro-active role in the “Knowledge triangle” through Applied research



Centres of Vocational Excellence

Erasmus+ funding under Partnerships for Excellence (Ka2)

- **2021-2027:** €400 million for 100 networks of CoVE
- **Applicant:** Any organisation established in a E+ Programme Country
- **Partners:** Any public or private organisation active in field of VET, or world of work. Can be from any country in the world, but non-programme partners must bring an **'essential added value'**
- **Partnership:** at least 8 full partners from a minimum of 4 Programme
 - a) at least 1 enterprise, industry or sector representative organisation, and
 - b) at least 1 VET provider (at secondary and/or tertiary level)
- **EQF levels:** Can be at any EQF level but must include levels 3, 4 or 5
- **Maximum grant:** €4 million per project with 4 year project duration
- **Erasmus+ 2022 call:** Deadline for project applications **7 September 2022**



Centres of Vocational Excellence

Erasmus+ 2019 & 2020 Pilot projects



Advanced Manufacturing 4.0
<https://examhub.eu/>



Water sector
<https://povewater.eu/>



Digital Innovation Hub
<https://dihubcloud.eu/>



Cultural and creative industries
<http://deuscci.eu/>



IoT in Smart manufacturing
<https://talentjourney.si/>



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



Microelectronics
<https://ecovem.eu/>



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



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



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



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



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

Update on Centres of Vocational Excellence

Projects selected in the Erasmus+ 2021 call

Offshore Renewable Energy (**T-SHORE**, led by Belgium)
Clean and sustainable energy (**SECOVE**, led by Greece)
Sustainable energy (**SEED**, led by The Netherlands)
Water sector (**PoVE**, led by The Netherlands)



Sustainability for business transformation (**CATALYST**, led by North Macedonia)
Artificial Intelligence, Virtual reality, and Social innovation (**EULEP**, led by Belgium)

Dairy agri-food (**AEDIL**, led by Denmark)
Multifunctional Agriculture (**AgriNext**, led by Slovenia)



Advanced manufacturing (**LCAMP**, led by Spain)
Arts and Crafts (**MOSAIC**, led by France)
Fashion, textiles and apparel industries (**FEA-VEE**, led by Greece)
Health care (**EUVECA**, led by Denmark)
Tourism (**TOUR-X**, led by Greece)



European
Commission

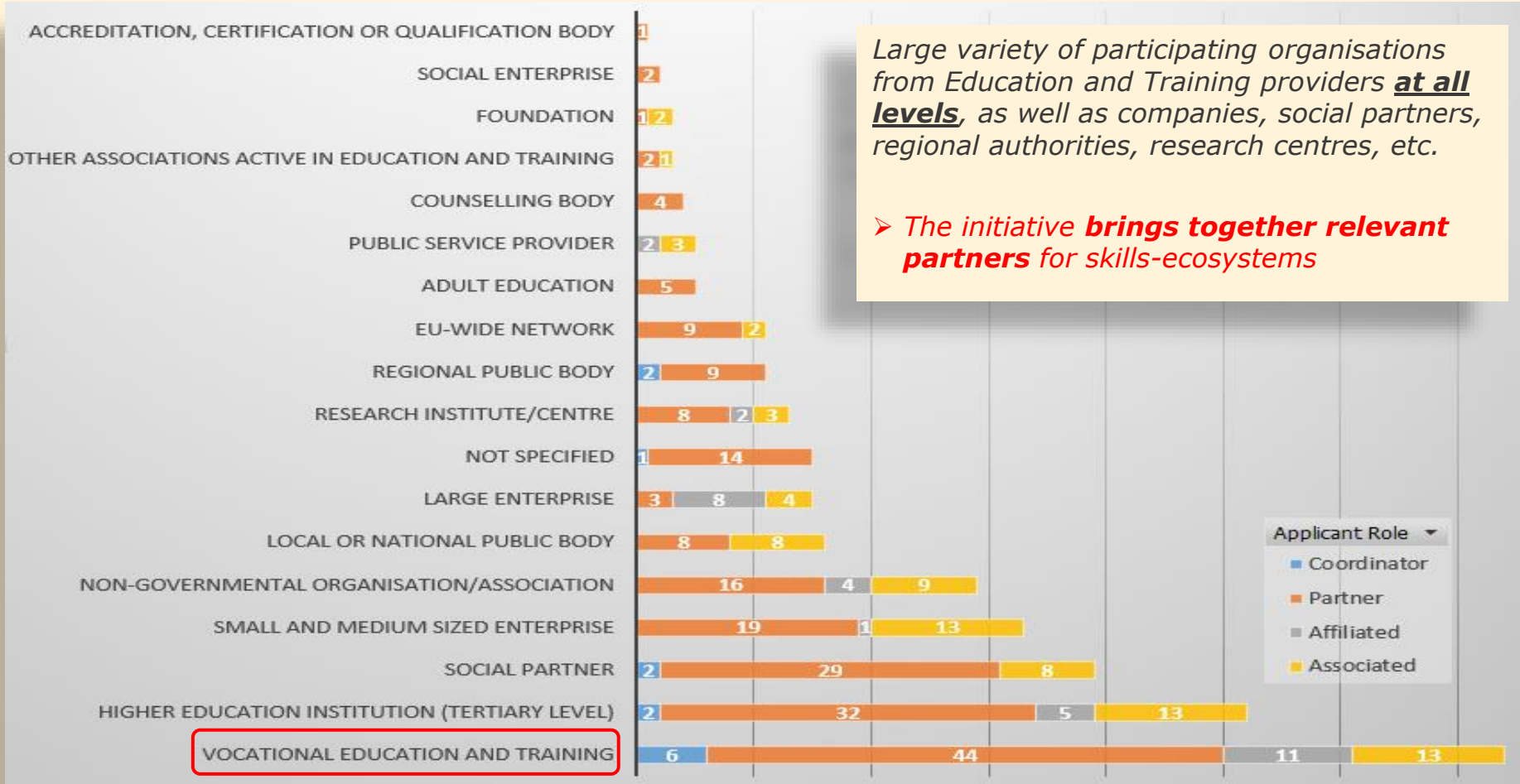
CoVE Erasmus+ call 2021: Countries of participating organisations

13 projects selected for funding (84 projects submitted)
Grants approved €46 million (grants requested €283 million)
37 countries in projects approved (55 in project applications)
331 participating organisations in projects approved

➤ Shows capacity of the initiative for the **Internationalization of VET** attracting partners from all over the world



CoVE Erasmus+ call 2021: Type of participating organisations



Large variety of participating organisations from Education and Training providers **at all levels**, as well as companies, social partners, regional authorities, research centres, etc.

➤ The initiative **brings together relevant partners** for skills-ecosystems

CoVE Erasmus+ call 2021: *Activities prioritized by projects*



All 25 activities covered with predominance of actions for:

- 1) *Business-education partnerships*
- 2) *Governance & Stakeholder involvement*
- 3) *Initial and continuing training*
- 4) *Innovative curricula*
- 5) *Innovative teaching & learning methodologies*

European Training Foundation (ETF) leading the work on the “International Dimension of Vocational Excellence”



Why collaborate closely with the European Training Foundation?

<https://www.etf.europa.eu/en>

Core **mission of the ETF** is to support transition and developing countries to harness the potential of their human capital through the reform of education, training, and labour market systems

Expertise on Vocational Excellence:

- European Agency supporting VET reforms in 29 countries outside the EU
- Delivering expertise on Skills in the context of EU external relations policies
- Highly qualified staff with know-how in vocational excellence
- Launched a very successful “ETF Network of Excellence” offering a platform for continuous exchange of practice among Centres of vocational
- Developed methodological tools to support the development of vocational excellence

The European Commission - ETF Service Level Agreement (SLA)

The aim

Build a strong international cooperation dimension on **Vocational Excellence**

The Deliverables

Four Work Packages:

1. Creating an international vocational excellence **quality and development tool** (*Self-assessment tool allowing VET institutions to assess and design their path to Excellence*)
2. Explore the feasibility of a **Quality award on Vocational Excellence**
3. **Building evidence** to support vocational excellence for the digital and green transitions
4. **Policy support** activities and **capacity building**

The contract

- 24 months contract, starting November 2021
- Deliverables will be integrated in future CoVE support services (launch 2022)

The Community of Practice (CoP) of Centres of Vocational Excellence

- ✓ CoP set-up **by** and **for** the Erasmus+ CoVE project leaders
- ✓ A bottom-up **learning community of practitioners**
- ✓ **Sharing experience** through **concrete activities**, aimed at modernising and innovating in VET provision
- ✓ **Addressing challenges** together
- ✓ Collecting & sharing **best practices**
- ✓ **Informing policy makers** on their experiences in setting-up CoVEs, and improving the initiative on Vocational Excellence



SPAIN, Castilla y León: Driving VET modernisation through Vocational Excellence

Junta de Castilla y León
Portal de EDUCACIÓN
FONDO SOCIAL EUROPEO
Unión Europea

Formación Profesional
Castilla y León
"Un itinerario con éxito..."

ACCESO PRIVADO Mapa Web Contacto

Oferta FP curso 2022/2023 Catálogo títulos de Formación Profesional en Castilla y León Cursos de Especialización	Admisión del alumnado FP Dual	Programas Europeos Pruebas - Convalidaciones	Programas MEFP - PCT Aula-Empresa
	Formación profesorado FP	FCT - CICERÓN	Skills: Campeonatos FP

INICIO

Centros de Excelencia Profesional

Escuchar

<https://youtu.be/zGUiYvEzpf8>



Certificación como Centro de Excelencia Profesional



ACTIVIDADES CONSIDERADAS DE EXCELENCIA PROFESIONAL

La certificación de Centro de Excelencia Profesional acredita que el centro docente tiene un nivel de excelencia en su organización, funcionamiento y actuación, con carácter general en el ámbito de las enseñanzas de formación profesional, y en particular, en la realización de actividades consideradas de excelencia profesional de acuerdo a los siguientes grupos:

<https://www.educa.jcyl.es/fp/es/centros-excelencia-profesional>

Junta de Castilla y León
Texto de búsqueda

SEDE ELECTRÓNICA de Castilla y León

CERTIFICACIÓN DE CENTRO DE EXCELENCIA PROFESIONAL EN ENSEÑANZAS DE FORMACIÓN PROFESIONAL

CÓDIGOS IDENTIFICADORES DEL PROCEDIMIENTO:

- IAPA: 2940
- SIA: 227265

OBJETO:
Certificar a los centros docentes sostenidos con fondos públicos que imparten enseñanzas de formación profesional en la Comunidad de Castilla y León como Centro de Excelencia Profesional.

¿QUIEN LO PUEDE SOLICITAR?
Director/directora o Titular de los centros docentes sostenidos con fondos públicos que imparten enseñanzas de formación profesional en la Comunidad de Castilla y León.

LUGAR Y FORMA DE PRESENTACIÓN:
Electrónico:

- ¿Quiénes están obligados a relacionarse electrónicamente con la Administración?
- Transmisión electrónica: ver requisitos técnicos.

¿QUÉ REQUISITOS DEBO CUMPLIR?

La certificación acredita que el centro docente tiene un nivel de excelencia en su organización, funcionamiento y actuación, con carácter general en el ámbito de las enseñanzas de formación profesional, y en particular, en la realización de actividades de excelencia profesional que realice el centro dentro de los siguientes grupos establecidos y que servirán para acreditarle en uno de los tres niveles de certificación:

Actividades de excelencia previstas (110 kbytes)



FRANCE: Vocational Excellence, Mobilising VET reforms


GOUVERNEMENT
*Liberté
Égalité
Fraternité*

LES CAMPUS DES MÉTIERS ET DES QUALIFICATIONS D'EXCELLENCE



Hubs for vocational
education
and training
excellence



The Campus, A PLACE FOR INNOVATION AND TRAINING right at the heart of business

A *Campus des métiers et des qualifications* is a network that brings together all the stakeholders in a business sector of the future. Its purpose is to develop the skills demanded by the industries of today and tomorrow, involving, on a regional scale:

- schools (general, technological and vocational upper secondary schools);
- higher education institutions;
- training organisations;
- research laboratories;
- companies;
- associations.

By offering initial and continuing education in a cutting-edge sector, the Campus helps to expand sectors of excellence and improve vocational opportunities. It can therefore deliver strong solutions to the socio-economic needs of its region.

Those who directly support the France 2030 recovery plan can apply to a €2 billion French call for projects dedicated to the upskilling of these sectors.

The *Campus des métiers et des qualifications* whose sector of activity faces a particularly strategic challenge bear the *Campus Excellence* label. As indicated during a colloquium organised on 3 and 4 February 2022 with the European Commission, excellence also depends on the Campus' ability to develop ambitious European partnerships (e.g. CoVE).



Shared governance between THE BUSINESS WORLD AND THE INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERS

At regional level, the strategic governance body of the Campus brings together representatives from the business sectors, the President of the Region and the head of the regional Education Authority.

Each Campus then sets up its own management body, consisting of the Campus Operations Director, the training institutions and the business and non-profit stakeholders.

The founding members of the Campus are free to choose a structure to lead the Campus (secondary school, university, specific association or public interest grouping).



Communication and networking



COVES FOR THE TOURISM INDUSTRY - TOURS

Partnership for Excellence - Centres of Vocational Excellence
Projects selected for funding under the ERASMUS+ 2021 call

TourX aims at the development of a bottom-up approach to excellence in the Tourism Sector, where the partnering Educational Providers (VET and HEIs) are increasing their ability of rapidly adapting skills provision to evolving economic and social needs. TourX fosters a bottom-up approach that includes the establishment of regional knowledge/triangles, through the establishment of a sustainable Platform for Excellence in Tourism.

Main objectives

- Foster National and transnational collaboration among all partnering stakeholders
- Increase skills anticipation in the tourism industry
- Increase sectoral employability and foster competitiveness
- Increase of investments in tourism related human resources

Main deliverables

- A Transnational Ecosystem for Excellence in Tourism
- A TourX "Hospitality Labs" Toolbox for Excellence
- 5 Competence-Based Curricula (EQF level 5-7), short-term training programmes and a Horizontal Training Package, with the use of DigiComp and other related Competence Frameworks
- A Watchtower for regional skills needs in the Tourism



Catalyzer for public-private partnerships in vocational and professional education

Community of Practice Centres of Vocational Excellence

The project leaders of all Erasmus Centers of Vocational Excellence have joined forces in the CoVE Community of Practice. In this community the project leaders share experiences, inspire each other and jointly try to find solutions for common issues they encounter while implementing the Centres of Vocational Excellence. By doing so, the project leaders are supporting each other and no one has to reinvent the wheel. The CoVE Community of Practice is a bottom-up initiative by and for the CoVE project leaders and participation is voluntary. Furthermore, the Community of Practice is working closely with other stakeholders and policy makers in the field of VET and higher education.



EUVECA - EUROPEAN PLATFORM FOR VET EXCELLENCE IN HEALTH CARE

Partnership for Excellence - Centres of Vocational Excellence
Projects selected for funding under the ERASMUS+ 2021 call

The EUVECA project tourage platform for vocational excellence in health care is designed to support the healthcare sector's needed innovation and development by ensuring the provision of future-oriented skills within the sector. The project creates regional vocational excellence hubs in 7 European regions, which collaborate within a European platform for vocational excellence in health care. The objective is to ensure cross-border adoption, innovation, and spread of convergence within regional health education into systems and curricula across identified mobility- and inter-region learning and collaboration among health care professionals and students from the participating regions. The overall ambition with the success project is to show that by including a strategic and coordinated focus on the work and collaboration within the regional health care systems, VET can contribute in a substantial way to issue resolution forward within the healthcare health care sector and ensure the sustainability of the sector on both a European and regional level. Regional excellence initiatives can also serve as a European platform for vocational excellence in health care.

Main objectives

- Increase the quality and attractiveness of vocational training and lifelong learning within the European healthcare sector and within healthcare education in general by focusing on cross-border cooperation, collaboration between different levels of education and training, enabling cross-sector convergence on regional level and promoting blended mobility- and inter-regional learning activities for health care students and professionals.
- Contribute to the implementation of the European skills agenda by ensuring continuous and high-quality VET to professionals in the healthcare sector, focusing on improved and tailored lifelong skills training, covering 21st-century skills, such as digital skills, communication skills, career development skills and health literacy, interdisciplinary and cross-sector collaboration, multidisciplinary skills and innovation skills, which are needed within all levels of professionals within the healthcare sector. From healthcare assistants to medical doctors.
- Contribute to the implementation of the European Education Area by creating long-term sustainable collaboration within higher health education and VET between the participating regions, which is expected to be extended to more European regions beyond the project period.
- Contribute to the sustainability of the European healthcare system through better planning, better forecasting of skills needs as well as better training of present and future health-care professionals, improved opportunities for implementation and uptake of innovation and technological systems and as a strong liaison between the European skills development agencies and the European health strategy.

Main deliverables

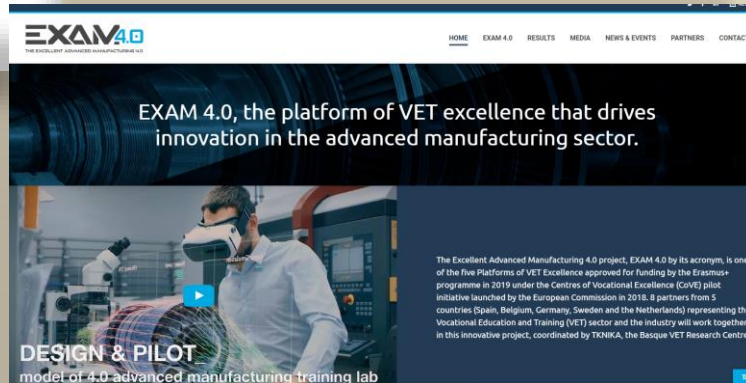
- To develop and present in-depth European skills needs analysis, including a scoping review
- To create a European Platform for VET Excellence in Healthcare (EPVH) that gathers and coordinates collaboration between the RVETs from the 7 European regions and which, beyond the project period, will be open to other RVETs to join.
- At least 100 students and/or professionals in each participating region will have taken part in regional training activities.
- An updated governance model for the RVETs and the EPVH

Project duration: 4 years

EU grant: € 5.557.775

Lead organisation: Region of Southern Denmark (Hospital of Southern Jutland)

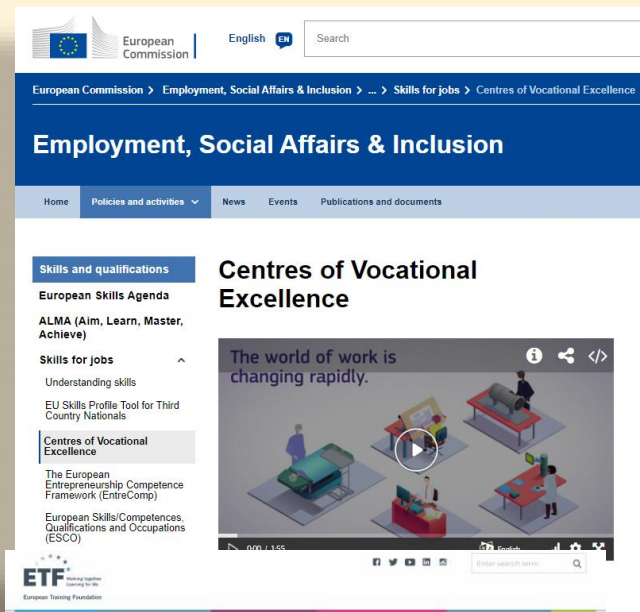
Location: Kresten Philipsens Vej 15, 6200 Aabenraa, Denmark



EXAM 4.0, the platform of VET excellence that drives innovation in the advanced manufacturing sector.

DESIGN & PILOT model of 4.0 advanced manufacturing training lab

The Excellent Advanced Manufacturing 4.0 project, EXAM 4.0 by its acronym, is one of the five Platforms of VET Excellence approved for funding by the Erasmus+ programme in 2019 under the Centres of Vocational Excellence (CoVE) pilot initiative launched by the European Commission in 2018. It partners from 5 countries (Spain, Belgium, Germany, Sweden and the Netherlands) representing the Vocational Education and Training (VET) sector and the industry will work together in this innovative project, coordinated by TKNIKA, the Basque VET Research Centre.



European Commission | English | Search

European Commission > Employment, Social Affairs & Inclusion > ... > Skills for jobs > Centres of Vocational Excellence

Employment, Social Affairs & Inclusion

Home | Policies and activities | News | Events | Publications and documents

Skills and qualifications

European Skills Agenda

ALMA (Aim, Learn, Master, Achieve)

Skills for jobs

Understanding skills

EU Skills Profile Tool for Third Country Nationals

Centres of Vocational Excellence

The European Entrepreneurship Competence Framework (EntreComp)

European Skills/Competences, Qualifications and Occupations (ESCO)

The world of work is changing rapidly.

ETF Network for Excellence: an international network of centres of vocational excellence

Work-based learning in centres of vocational excellence

Cooperation with Skillmanau

Centres of vocational excellence and public-private partnerships

Entrepreneurial centres of vocational excellence

Digitalisation of teaching and learning for centres of vocational excellence



Vocational excellence

ETF Network for Excellence: an international network of centres of vocational excellence

Year: 2023

Project status: Current

What are the centres of vocational excellence?

More information

Europa Website on CoVE:

<https://ec.europa.eu/social/vocational-excellence>

The Erasmus+ programme

https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/node_en

Functional mailbox for all questions related to CoVE calls:

FACEA-EPLUS-VET@ec.europa.eu

Applying for Erasmus+ CoVE funding in the Funding & Tenders Opportunities Portal (FTOP)

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/erasmus-edu-2022-pex-cove>



Finding partners for CoVE projects:

- Use the “**Partner search announcements**” in FTOP
<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/erasmus-edu-2022-pex-cove>
- The Center of Vocational Excellence **Match Making Map**
<https://www.wearekatapult.eu/cove-match-making-map/>
- **European Training Foundation (ETF) Network for Excellence (ENE)**
<https://www.etf.europa.eu/en/projects-campaigns/projects/vocational-excellence>
- Contact European **Associations of VET Providers**
<https://hub.vet4eu2.eu/blog/2021/04/27/vet-european-networking-enhancement/>
- The **Community of Practice** on the Centres of Vocational Excellence
www.copcoves.eu

