



European
Commission

CO-CREATING ERASMUS+ AND THE EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY CORPS





SUPPORTING HIGH QUALITY SKILLS AND COMPETENCES THROUGH CENTRES OF VOCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

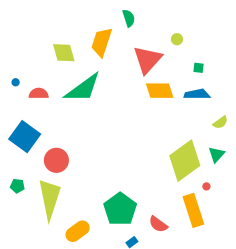
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STRUCTURE OF THE PRESENTATION

1. What is Vocational Excellence?
2. The initiative of Centres of Vocational Excellence (CoVEs) – Characteristics of CoVEs
3. Piloting the initiative



THE CALL FOR ACTION

The policy concept is not new ...

Communication on
Rethinking Education

2012

Communication on
**Building a
stronger Europe**

2017

Communication on
**Strengthening Innovation in
Europe's Regions**

2018

EC proposal for the
Erasmus programme
2021-2027

2004
2006
2008
2010

VET **Communiqués**
call for action on **Innovation**
and **Excellence**

“VOCATIONAL EXCELLENCE” – THE CONCEPT

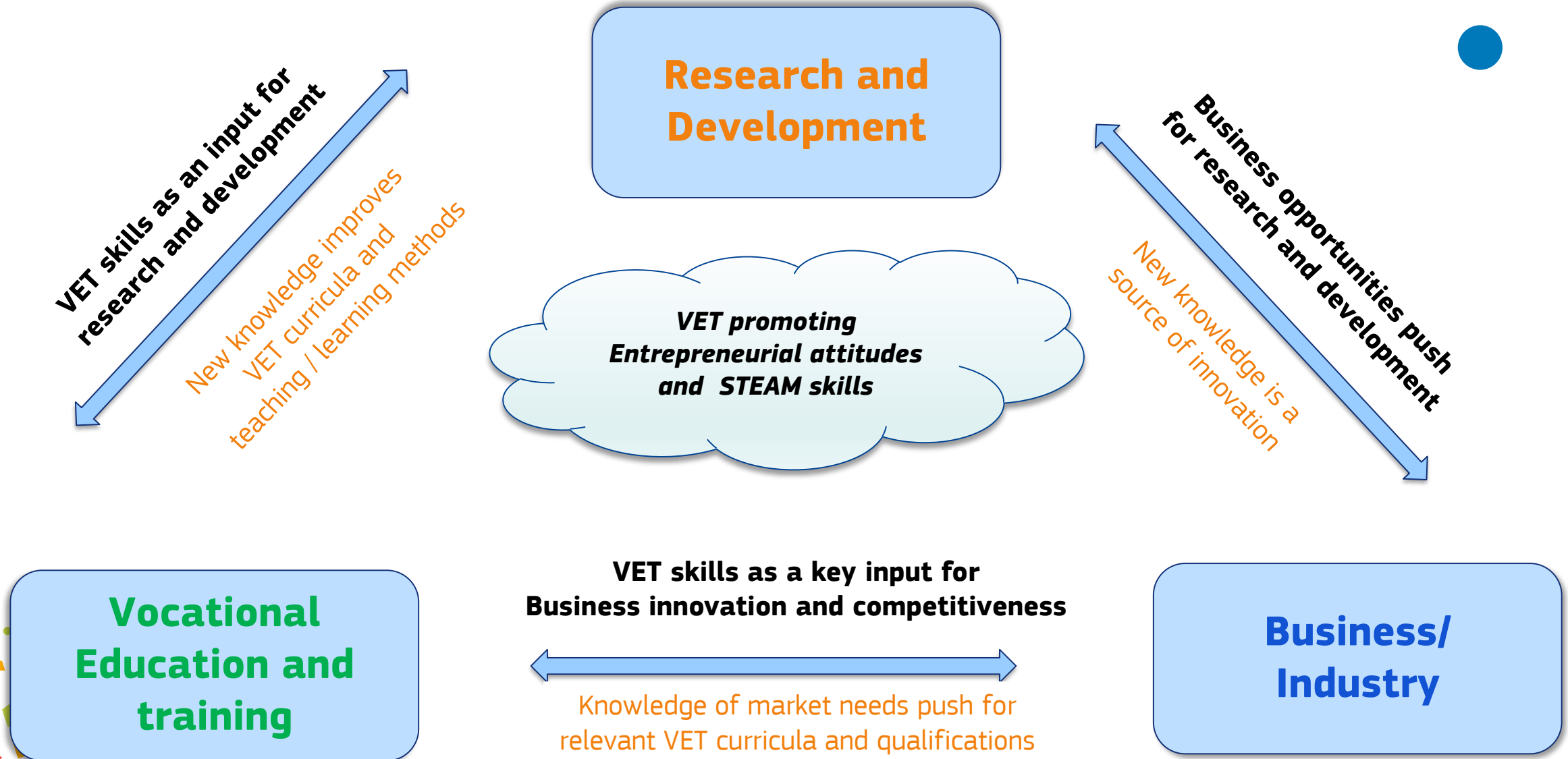
... characterised by a holistic learner-centred approach in which VET:

- Is an integrative part of skills ecosystems
- Is part of knowledge triangles
- Enables learners to acquire both vocational and key competences through high-quality provision



Approach allows for variation across countries

THE “KNOWLEDGE TRIANGLE”



THE INITIATIVE

Foster Vocational Excellence at two levels

NATIONAL

Through **Centres of Vocational Excellence (CoVE)**

Operating in a given **local context**, embedding them closely in the local **innovation** and **skills ecosystems**

TRANSNATIONAL

Through **Platforms of CoVEs** bringing together partners around:

- Specific **sectors** – *such as aeronautics, e-mobility, ICT, green technologies, healthcare...*
- **Societal challenges** – *such as climate change, integration of migrants, digitalisation, AI, SDG, upskilling and reskilling...*

PLATFORMS' PARTNERSHIPS

- We have taken inspiration from a number of experiences in different countries (*Tknika Institute – ES; Campus des métiers et des qualifications – FR; Katapult Network – NL*)
- Long-term sustainable platforms of cooperation bringing together local / regional partners with the objective of "**upward convergence**" of VET excellence throughout Europe
- The platforms will be open for the involvement of countries with well-developed vocational excellence systems, as well as those in the process of developing similar approaches.

OVERVIEW OF 2019 SELECTED PROJECTS

Title	Talentjourney	Excellent Advanced Manufacturing 4.0	Digital Innovation Hub for Cloud Based Services	Open Design School	Platform of Vocational Excellence Water
Sector	IoT in Smart manufacturing	Advanced Manufacturing	Cloud computing	Cultural and creative industries	Water sector
Countries	5	4	5	9	6
EU Grant	953.550 €	799.332 €	999.882 €	874.093 €	998.022 €
Coordinator	Šolski center Nova Gorica (SI)	Tknika (ES)	Helsinki Business college (FI)	Basilicata Foundation (IT)	Friesland college (NL)
Partners	13	8	10	9	11

5 projects selected. Duration 2 years. Total grants: €4.624.879

THE 2020 PILOT PROJECTS

KA3 Specific call

Support for “Platforms of Centres of Vocational Excellence (CoVE)”

- Support for **5 fully-fledged Platforms** running for 4 years
- Focus on **green and digital skills**
- At least **4 programme countries**, at least **8 full partners**, with at least **1 company** or industry representative, and **1 VET provider** in each country
- Budget **€20.000.000**, with maximum EU grant **€4,000,000** per project
- Published 15 October 2019. Deadline for applications February 2020.

KEY SUCCESS FACTORS



Key success factors

1



Strong and enduring relationships

between stakeholders - VET providers (including VET at tertiary level), higher education institutions, and businesses, in which interactions are reciprocal and mutually beneficial (rather than 'one-way traffic')

2



Being firmly anchored into the frameworks

of regional development, innovation and smart specialisation. Such anchoring allows for the identification of synergies between policies and amongst stakeholders, avoiding ad hoc actions, which, though beneficial, in themselves probably do not realise all the potential benefits.

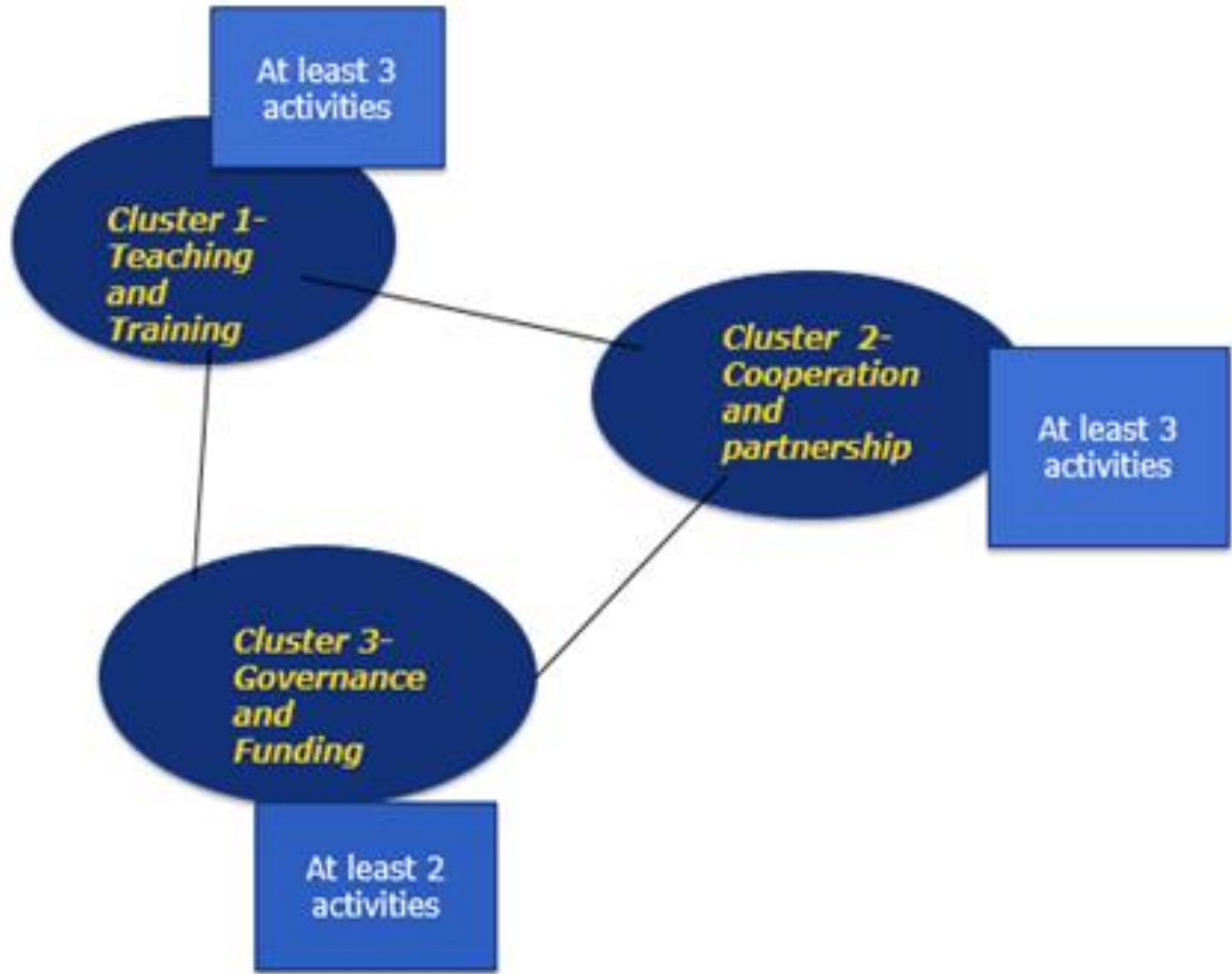
3



Integration of activities

There is great potential in CoVEs to achieve more than sum of their parts, in particular, where CoVEs build reflexive relationships between activities and research.

KEY ACTIVITIES



3 KEY QUESTIONS

1. What are the **key factors and activities** that should characterise effective CoVEs? What are the **tools, instruments and technical expertise** to be made available?
2. How **can the EU support CoVE development?**
(e. g. synergies with other initiatives; European level peer learning; sharing of innovative methodologies; etc.)
3. What **actions can be taken at national level** to ensure the involvement of the relevant stakeholders?

