

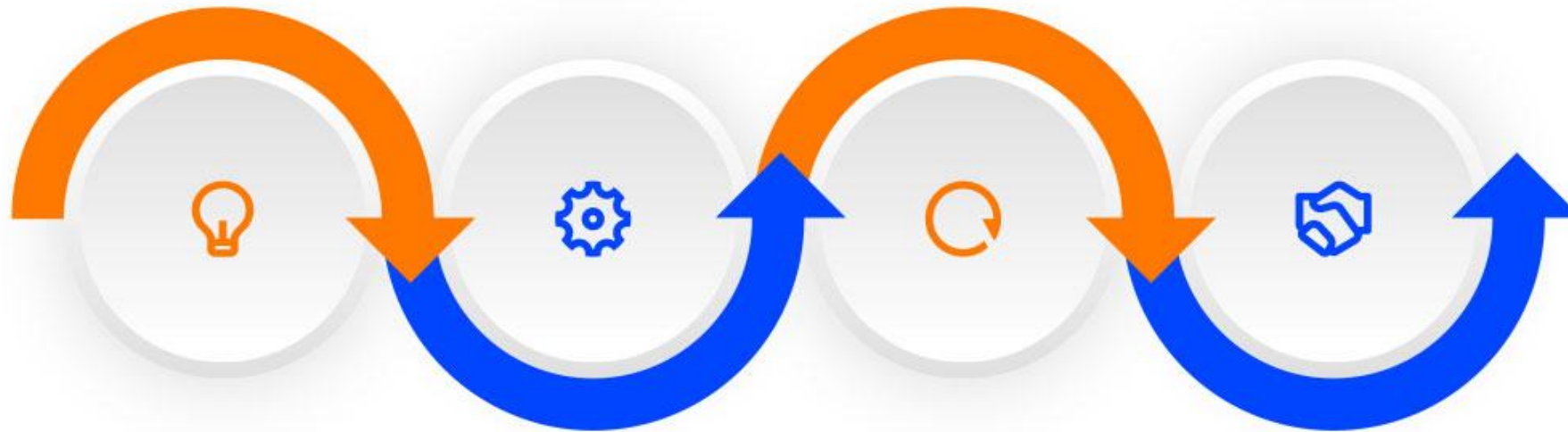
The Union of Skills and Vocational Excellence

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4th Meeting of the Danube Region Platform on Centres of Vocational
Excellence – 30 September 2025



Union of Skills



Build skills
for quality
lives and jobs

**Upskill and
reskills**
for the digital &
green transition

Circulate skills
across the EU for
competitiveness

**Attract, develop
and retain talent**
for Europe's
future

**STEM EDUCATION ACTION
PLAN**

BASIC SKILLS ACTION PLAN



INITIATIVES – Union of Skills

Some of the initiatives relevant for VET

- **New VET strategy in 2026** for attractiveness, excellence and inclusion of VET as well as its internationalization
 - Report on implementation of 2020 VET CR (end 2025)
 - [Herning Declaration](#) endorsed in Sept 2025
- **Initiating work on a possible European VET diploma / label** – to ensure recognition of diplomas/modules/ across countries - pilot projects in 2025-2026 in Erasmus+
- **Strengthen Centres of Vocational Excellence in 2026-2029**
- Develop joint transnational programmes and short courses leading to MCs in strategic STEM sectors **through the CoVEs** and Universities Alliances



Status for implementation of Erasmus+ CoVEs

- Indicative budget of 400 million euros to fund 100 projects in the period 2021-2027
- 12 pilot projects were funded in 2019 and 2020.
- **All countries from Danube Regions are represented in the E+ CoVEs**
- Call of 2025 being evaluated (approx. budget for 15/16 projects)
- 2 more calls coming up in 2026 and 2027

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

Upcoming brochure and report (Nov 2025)

Call Year	2021	2022	2023	2024
Budget	44 million	48 million	56 million	56 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

Architecture of the new MFF

Heading 1:

Encompasses in particular the National and Regional Partnership Plans.

Will bring several funds under one coherent strategy per country/region, with clear milestones.

Heading 2:

Competitiveness and prosperity. Includes:

Erasmus+, AgoraEU, a renewed Horizon Europe and a new European Competitiveness Fund (ECF).

Heading 3:

Global Europe

Will align enlargement, partnerships and the Union's values.

Heading 4: European Public Administration



European Alliance for Apprenticeships (EAfA)

Action Plan 2025

43 countries –500+ organisations members; Welcoming UA and Kosovo next week in a ETF/EAfA event

Events	Webinars	Learning tools
<p>HLE apprenticeships for the Union of Skills and Clean Industrial Deal 30 June - 1 July</p> <p>EAfA-ETF Joint Seminar 7-8 October 2025</p>	<p>1. Quality apprenticeships and working conditions 10 April 2025</p> <p>2. Gender stereotypes in apprenticeships 22 October 2025</p>	<p>3 Factsheets</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attracting and nurturing trainers 2. Basic skills 3. High-level apprenticeship <p>1 Toolkit (end 2025) Apprenticeships for adults</p>
EAfA Communities	Website and newsletters	Online library
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Learning mobility 2. Social inclusion and gender 3. Green and digital transitions 4. Role of citizens and regions 5. Higher apprenticeships 	<p>Website</p> <p>2 articles/testimonials per month</p> <p>1 stakeholder article per month</p> <p>Quarterly newsletters</p>	<p>6-8 new items per month</p>

Thank you!



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