

## CONCEPT NOTE AND AGENDA

### 2ND MEETING OF THE DANUBE REGION PLATFORM ON CENTRES OF VOCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

8-9 NOVEMBER 2022, ONLINE

#### BACKGROUND

The Danube Region Platform on Centres of Vocational Excellence provides a forum for exchange on centres of vocational excellence (CoVEs) with a thematic focus on going green and social inclusion. The platform was launched by Priority Area 9 (PA9) of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region in cooperation with the European Training Foundation (ETF) Network for Excellence (ENE). As part of the initiative, a Policy Platform was established, bringing together representatives of responsible national institutions from Danube Region countries and experts from the European Commission, PA9 and ETF. An online kick-off meeting took place on 29 November 2021.

#### CONCEPT

The second platform meeting will enable a more in-depth discussion among the members of the Policy Platform. Invitations will be sent to the Policy Platform members and the Steering Group of PA9. The idea is to allow for exchange among the Danube Region countries on current and/or planned initiatives regarding vocational excellence in the areas of going green and social inclusion. Innovative approaches with regard to the contribution of CoVEs and VET institutions to regional development and multiplier effects on VET systems will be at the centre of the discussion. In addition, the further development of the platform and possible next steps with regard to the promotion of cooperation between CoVEs will be discussed.

In the introduction session on the first day of the meeting, the European Commission (DG EMPL and DG EAC), PA9 and ETF will provide updates on current activities and funding opportunities. A guided discussion between members of the Policy Platform will follow, during which each country is invited to give an update on current and/or planned initiatives along guiding questions, such as:

- What are current national developments and policy priorities regarding vocational excellence and/or CoVEs (since the last meeting in November 2021) and what is further planned?
- Are there any initiatives to promote going green in the field vocational education in your country? If so, in which areas and what are current priorities?
- Are there any initiatives to promote social inclusion in the field vocational education in your country? If so, in which areas and what are current priorities?

The second day of the meeting will start with inputs on opportunities for funding and cooperation on going green and social inclusion. During the workshop sessions, participants will have the opportunity to work together on identifying topics of interest for further policy exchange and potential cooperation between CoVEs in each area along guiding questions, such as:

- Which topics would you like to focus on for further policy exchange?
- In which areas do you see potential for cooperation between CoVEs?
- Which opportunities for support could be used (funding opportunities, existing networks, etc.)?

## AGENDA

Time (CET)	Sessions
<b>8 NOVEMBER</b>	
<b>13.30 – 14.00</b>	<b>Log-in</b>
<b>14.00 – 14.10</b>	<b>Welcome by the moderator and icebreaker</b> <i>Sarah Fellner, OeAD – Austria’s Agency for Education and Internationalisation</i>
<b>14.10 – 14.40</b>	<b>Update on Cooperation in Vocational Education and Training in the Danube Region</b> <i>Welcome and presentation by EUSDR Priority Area 9:</i> <i>Jürgen Schick, Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research of Austria</i> <i>Roland Hanak, Federal Ministry of Labour and Economy of Austria</i>  <b>Update on the ETF Network for Excellence (ENE)</b> <i>Welcome and presentation by the European Training Foundation:</i> <i>José Manuel Galvin Arribas, ETF</i>  <b>Update from the European Commission (EC)</b> <i>João Santos, Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, EC</i>
<b>14.40 – 14.45</b>	<b>Short break</b>
<b>14.45 – 15.55</b>	<b>Update by the members of the Policy Platform</b> on current national policy priorities regarding CoVEs/VET and initiatives to promote going green and social inclusion (max. 5 min per country)
<b>15.55 – 16.00</b>	<b>Closing of the first day and outlook</b>
<b>9 NOVEMBER</b>	
<b>09.00 – 09.30</b>	<b>Log-in</b>
<b>09.30 – 09.35</b>	<b>Welcome by the moderator</b> <i>José Manuel Galvin Arribas, ETF</i>
<b>09.35 – 10.30</b>	<b>Opportunities for funding and cooperation on going green and social inclusion</b> <i>Presentation on Erasmus+ (Magdalena Marchhart and Astrid Terreng, OeAD)</i> <i>Presentation on the Danube Region Programme (Stephen Halligan, Managing Authority)</i>
<b>10.30 – 10.45</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>10.45 – 11.45</b>	<b>Workshop to identify areas for cooperation on going green</b> <i>Rainer Stifter, Energon GmbH</i>
<b>11.45 – 12.45</b>	<b>Workshop to identify areas for cooperation on social inclusion</b> <i>Michaela Marterer, Styrian Association for Education and Economics</i>
<b>12.45 – 13.00</b>	<b>Closing session</b>