

EUROPEAN TRAINING FOUNDATION

Centres of Vocational Excellence, the ETF experience

EUSDR PA9 - International Stakeholders
Conference “Building partnerships for future skills”

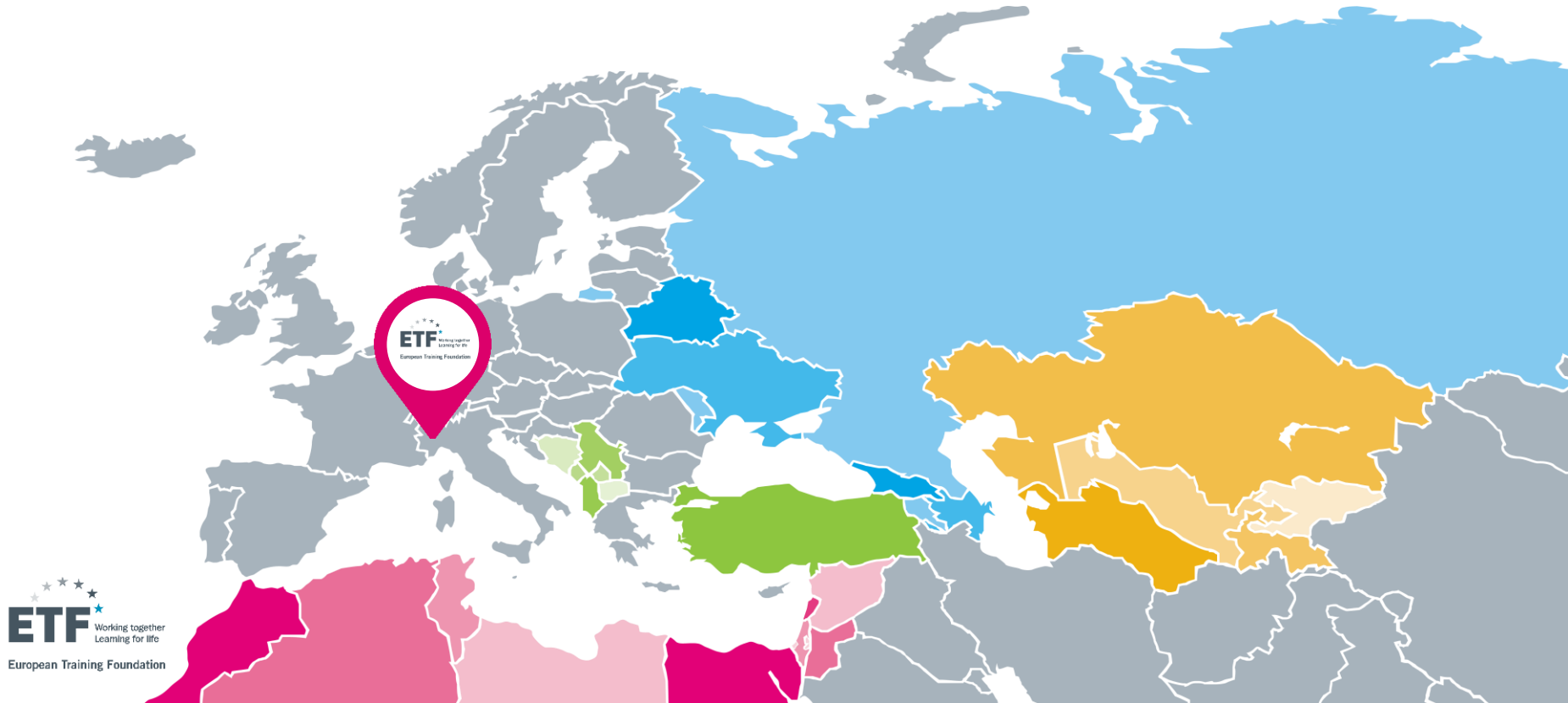
24th October 2019 – Moldova

By Georgios Zisimos @Gzisimos

The ETF is an agency
of the **European Union**,
helping **EU neighbouring
countries** to reform their
own education and
training systems, in line
with the **EU's external
relations** policies.



WHERE WE WORK





European Training Foundation

ETF STRATEGY 2027



THE DRIVERS OF CHANGE



Human capital a priority for
EU external assistance
under the new MFF 2021-27



Change of vocational
education and training
systems



Paradigm shift towards
lifelong learning



Globalisation
and connectivity



Climate change



Technological and
digital change



Demographic
shifts

ETF STRATEGY 2027

**HUMAN CAPITAL
DEVELOPMENT**



**LIFELONG
LEARNING
SYSTEMS**



**KNOWLEDGE
HUB FOR POLICY
AND PRACTICE**



**DELIVERING IN
PARTNERSHIP**



**DIFFERENTIATED
APPROACH**



THREE BROAD AREAS



Skills relevance and anticipation



Skills development and validation



Performance and quality of systems and policies

CENTRES OF VOCATIONAL EXCELLENCE - WHAT ARE WE DISCUSSING?

What is the urgency?



- Perceptions of Vocational Excellence

- Mapping of Centres of Vocational Excellence

- Developmental dimension of Vocational Excellence

- ETF Future Plans

- Setting Up CoVEs




WHAT IS THE AIM OF THIS INITIATIVE?






The aim of this initiative is to 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 ecosystems, and connecting them at European level

Transnational: through Platforms of Centres of Vocational Excellence to establish world-class reference points for vocational training by bringing together CoVE`s that share a common interest in specific sectors/ trades (e.g. aeronautics, e-mobility, green technologies, ICT, healthcare, etc.) or innovative approaches to tackle societal challenges (e.g. integration of migrants, Digitalisation, Artificial Intelligence, Sustainable Development Goals, upskilling people with low qualification levels, etc.).



	ARMENIA	BELARUS	GEORGIA	MOLDOVA	UKRAINE	AZERBAIJAN	RUSSIA	KOSOVO	JORDAN	MOROCCO	TUNISIA	ALGERIA
Countries responded	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	o	o	X
Examples submitted per country	1	1	1	3	2	5	1	4	3	0	0	1

- Russia - “Centres of Competency” or “Centres of Occupational excellence and workers”
- Ukraine - “Centres for professional excellence”
- Moldova - “partnerships for quality and relevance”
- Azerbaijan - “VET competence centres”
- Belarus - “Centres of excellence”
- Kosovo* - “Akademie”
- Algeria - Partnership for Excellence (Partenariat pour l'excellence)

* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence.

ETF MAPPING - THE MOST COMMON ELEMENTS

ETF partner countries are mainly middle-income or in economic transition



Establishing
business-
education
partnerships
continuum



Providing
people with
labour market
relevant skills in
a lifelong
learning



Development,
introduction or
presence of
innovative
teaching and
training
methodologies



Development,
introduction or
presence of
innovative
curricula and
pedagogies



Investing in
the continuing
professional
development
of teachers
and trainers

ETF MAPPING - THE LEAST COMMON ELEMENTS

ETF partner countries are mainly middle-income or in economic transition



Development, introduction or presence of “International VET campus/academies”



Acting as or supporting innovation hubs and technology diffusion centres



Making use of EU financial instruments and Funds



Development, introduction or presence of business incubators for VET learners



Contributing to creation and dissemination of new knowledge

ELEMENTS PER PROJECT

Elements	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Algeria																			
Armenia																			
Azerbaijan																			
Azerbaijan																			
Azerbaijan																			
Azerbaijan																			
Azerbaijan																			
Belarus																			
Georgia																			
Jordan																			
Jordan																			
Jordan																			
Kosovo																			
Kosovo																			
Kosovo																			
Kosovo																			
Moldova																			
Moldova																			
Moldova																			
Morocco																			
Russia																			
Russia																			
Russia																			
Russia																			
Russia																			
Tunisia																			
Ukraine																			
Ukraine																			
Total	23	12	24	13	19	15	22	22	20	12	14	11	8	8	0	15	12	10	15

1. Providing people with labour market relevant skills

2. Providing higher level VET programmes;

3. Establishing business-education partnerships for; apprenticeships,

4. Working together with local SME's by sharing equipment

5. Development, introduction or presence of Joint VET curricula

6. Development, introduction or presence of internationalization

7. Development, or presence of innovative teaching methodologies

8. Development, introduction or presence of innovative curricula

9. Investing in the continuing professional development of teachers

10. Development, introduction or presence of project-based learning

11. Providing guidance services, as well as validation of prior learning

12. Development, introduction or presence of business incubators

13. Acting as or supporting innovation hubs

14. Supporting the attraction of foreign investment projects

15. Development, or presence of "International VET academies"

16. Participating in national and international Skills competitions

17. Contributing to creation and dissemination of new knowledge

18. Making use of EU financial instruments and Funds

19. Developing sustainable financial models



ETF PAPER - SNAPSHOT ON BACKGROUND:

Key Issues supporting Rationales & Policy Options For Setting- up CoVEs

• Improving the **efficiency and performance of networks of VET institutions**, & invest in infrastructure, equipment.

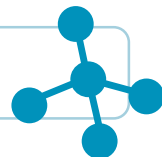
• Halting **declining or stagnating enrolment rates in VET institutions** (demography of VET);

• Improving **VET quality provision; Q.A systems**; using labour market intelligence to effectively match skills.

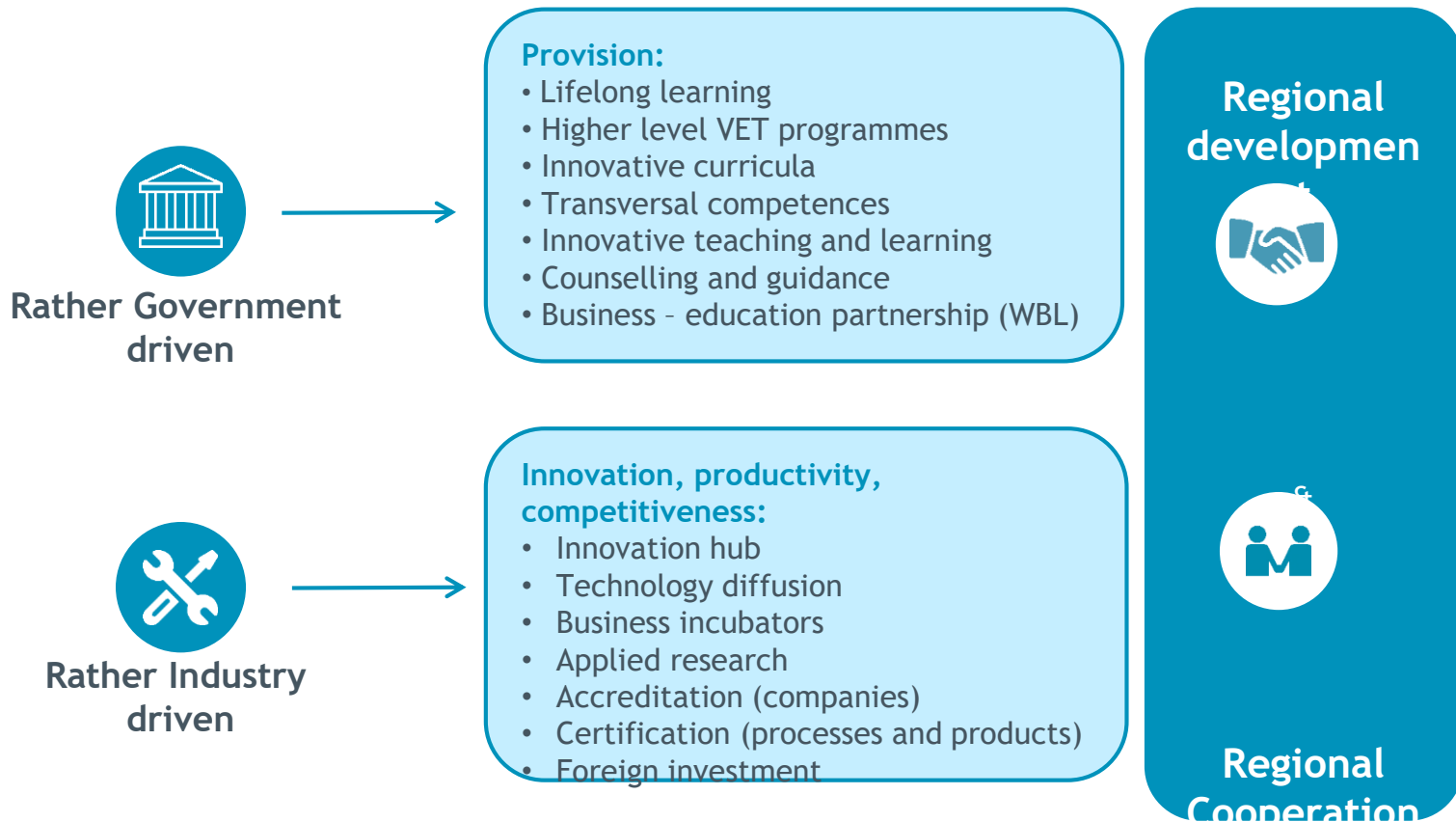
• Addressing effective and wide-spread **work-based learning (WBL)** practices;

• Improving **effectiveness of VET multi level governance** & increasing **VET school autonomy**;

• Addressing gaps in the recruitment of **quality teaching staff** (e.g. masters of practical tra



Clustering findings - Drivers for Centres of Vocational Excellence



Centre of Vocational Excellence

WHAT ?

- Green technology
- Digitization
- Agriculture
- Adult training
- Innovative teaching
- etc.

HOW ?

- Governance
- Autonomy
- Collaboration
- Leadership
- Financing
- etc.



Why are you doing what you do? And where, e.g. Europe, Africa, Asia?

Do you focus your support rather on the *what* or on the *how*?

What are the success factors?

How can international networks help?

SCOPE FOR COLLABORATION



Projects, such as the joint development of new materials or the application of new methodologies;



Observation and learning from innovative or modern practice in other schools.



Collaborating to engage and work with business and other non-educational actors.



Sharing resources, e.g. staff, leadership, laboratories and instructional materials



Collective provision of some services, such as professional development, procurement, data storage, careers advice, labour market data collection



Coordination and rationalisation of the training offer in order to optimise it and increase efficiency.



THANK YOU

The words 'THANK YOU' are written in a large, bold, sans-serif font. Each letter is a different color: 'T' is yellow, 'H' is pink, 'A' is white, 'N' is green, 'K' is orange, 'Y' is blue, and 'O' is yellow. The 'U' is green.