

Sustainable collaboration and sharing good practices

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General conditions

- Added value
- Structure; networks like SEEVET-Net and EUproVET
- Maintenance

Content of the presentation

1. European tendencies
2. Situation in the Northern part of Europe, more specific in the Netherlands and the role of the Association of Colleges; MBO Raad
3. EUproVET, Platform of European Providers of Vocational Education and Training

Why?

Tendencies in Europe (1)

- Growing importance of Europe and European policy
- Other domains than education affect Vocational Education and Training (VET) as well (European labour market, competition, migration, social affairs)
- Communications, Recommendations from the EC are (indirectly) influencing policy on national, regional and institutional level

Tendencies in Europe (2)

- VET and Life Long Learning plays key role in Lisbon ambitions
- EQF, ECVET, EQARF, Europass etc. are all instruments to promote transparency and mobility
- Life Long Learning program 2007-2013 delivers the financial means

Tendencies in Europe (3)

- Most successful education systems, including Finland, have shifted policy away from control over resources and content towards a focus on better outcomes
- Tendency towards more institutional autonomy and enlargement (mergers) creates new challenges (situation in Northern part of Europe)

Situation before 1994 in the Netherlands

- Shattered landscape of VET-providers
- Institutions for apprenticeship training
- Institutions for school based training
- Training through Employment services
- Sector based Knowledge Centers (ITOs?), but only for apprentice system
- No mutual relationships
- Different Ministeries

Situation Netherlands since 1996 (1)

- Deregulation – institutional autonomy
- Decentralisation, ‘regionalisation’
- Large Regional Education & Training Centre’s (ROCs) through mergers with a large variety of programs
- Strong regional function, including links to labour market through workplacement and CVET

Situation Netherlands since 1996 (2)

- Lump sum financing
- One single qualification framework. Work based and school based as communicating vessels
- Increasing professionalism of school management

MBO Raad

- After merging process, the remaining 70 institutions put up an association (bottom-up)
- The MBO Raad is the Dutch association that represents all government funded educational institutes for secondary vocational training and adult education in the Netherlands
- 100% representation

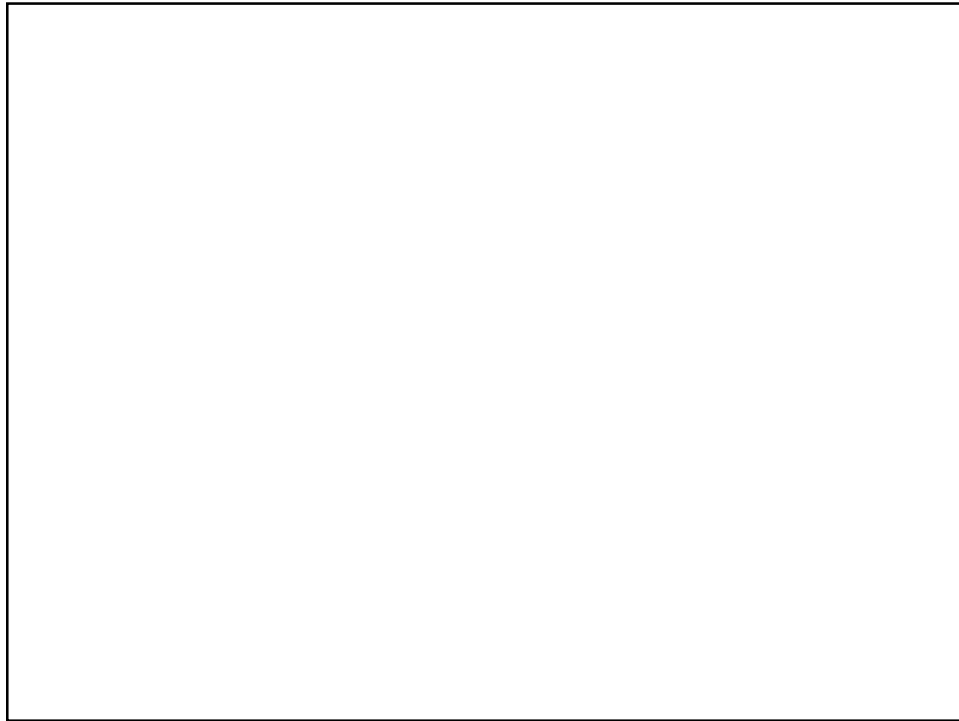
The MBO Raad unites the VET sector (1)

- Promotes collective interests of the sector, supports common activities of institutions and acts as an employer' organization
- Intermediary between the VET-colleges and government, professional branch organisations, industries and others

The MBO Raad unites the VET sector (2)

- Provides colleges with guidance and advice of their consultants
- Promotes innovation in education

***As the representing organisation,
the MBO Raad is at the heart of the sector.***



Full members in EUproVET

- UK: Association of Colleges (AoC)
- Ireland: Irish Vocational Education Association (IVEA)
- Denmark: Danske Ervehrsskoler
- Finland: KJY
- Netherlands: MBO Raad

Initiating partners for an Association on European level; EUproVET European Providers of VET

Associated members in EUproVET and partnerships

- Lithuania: LIPRIA
- France: RENASUP
- Spain: COEPA

Partnerships with other Associations:

- EURASHE
- SEEVET-Net ?

Why a new European Network of VET providers?

- To provide the EC with a representative counterpart from the side of the providers
- To voice the interests of (leaders of) colleges and schools directly on the European level
- To bridge the gap between policy preparation (EC) and policy implementation (providers)

Other objectives

- To promote the European agenda and transnational cooperation between members (mobility, EQF, EQARF, ECVET etc)
- To create connections with Higher Education
- To contribute to social inclusion, from a social and from an economic perspective

Current situation

- At the moment there is no direct input from VET providers at the European level

BUT:

- At several occasions, the European Commission has expressed the need for a representative body of VET-providers for consulting

Europe asks

- Strategies to improve performance, quality and attractiveness of VET
- More participation in Life Long Learning to respond to the demands of the changing labour market
- Strategies to combat drop outs
- Strategies to raise the education level in general
- More mobility
- Better knowledge of foreign languages

EUproVET answers (1)

- By establishing a direct voice of representational VET providers at EU policy level

A unified VET sector on the European level will strengthen its position in policy matters and is able to conduct the dialogue with the EC on all aspects of the European Agenda; see example of the Universities in EUA

EUpVET answers (2)

- By promoting transnational cooperation between the members and taking away barriers

Paving the way for exchange of knowledge and best practices among the schools/colleges and increasing mobility

EUpVET answers (3)

- By promoting VET and Adult Education as major educational form to enhance sustained economic growth

Establishing an effective lobby to raise the status of VET and Adult Education and to bring it higher up on the agendas of policy makers

EUproVET answers (4)

- By contributing to the realization of the Copenhagen process

EUproVET will contribute to the European Vocational Education and Training Area (EVETA) and to the Life Long Learning Program, 2007-2013

EUproVET answers (5)

- By stimulating and underpinning effective consultation with governments within the member states

Effective consultation between representative national structures (members EUproVET) and their national governments is crucial for the success of VET-policies on the national level as well as on EU level

Benefits for Colleges

- Strategic: A representational platform of providers that contributes to the European agenda (direct voice)
- Operational: Opportunities to add a strong international dimension to your education through the membership of EUproVET

Membership and Representation

- For organisations/associations that represent the direct providers (schools/colleges)
- It is up to every country to decide on the nature of a national representative body for their providers
- Due to the differences in Europe, differences of members have to be accepted
- Leading idea however is a bottom up structure



More information?

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