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| EVENT NAME | Regional Governance of VET skill policies and system in Ukraine: What role and responsibilities for the (new) Regional VET Councils |
| LOCATION | Premier Hotel Dnister Lviv |
| DATE(S) | 25 – 26 October 2017 |
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**Overview**

Decentralization of the Ukrainian VET system has many challenges to face according to findings of the recent ETF & Ministry of Education and Science (MoES) Green Paper presented and widely acknowledged by Ukrainian VET actors in high-level policy forum (Kiev, 3/4 April 2017) ([[1]](#footnote-2)). Among such key challenges, the effective reform of institutional settings is a crucial pre-condition for smooth implementation of political, administrative and fiscal decentralization of VET public policies in the country. These issues were also discussed on a working meeting organised by the ETF and held in Lviv 14th June 2017.

In this regard, VET Ukrainian stakeholders are fully aware that the current process of transferring administrative and financial functions from central to local levels should be better re-designed, implemented and monitored. This is more pressuring in the context of on-going work for approving a new legislative framework to steer Ukrainian VET, as it is expected that this legal text will reflect an effective and efficient model of VET decentralization capable to contribute on socioeconomic and regional development of the country. The overarching aim of the VET decentralisation is to make the VET system relevant and attractive at national, regional, and local levels.

On the one hand, both governments at central level and within territorial division (governing public policies in Oblast, Rayon’s and amalgamated Gromadas) need to have a clear mandate to participate and have a say according to differentiated roles to take decisions on management and financing of and consultation on Regional VET school networks. On the other, such regional and lowest local powers need to have appropriate financial and human resources for deploying their different degrees of autonomy and apply analytical, managerial, consultative, advisory and/or networking capacities to engage private sector in VET. This should be strongly underpinned by transparency and accountability mechanisms, as key principles of VET good multilevel governance approach, which has been acknowledged for implementing VET decentralization processes in the country.

The allocation of political and technical tasks which broadly address a set of administrative and managerial capacities is in practice a complex redistribution of roles and responsibilities to appropriate vertical and horizontal levels of governance. This should be accompanied by the adaptation of old mechanisms to new –modern- ones for rule setting, decision making and financing, as well as the creation of new VET policy coordination mechanisms for regional participation in decision making indeed. Implementing institutional, financial and informational dimensions of VET good multilevel governance approach is nowadays a crucial challenge for reforming VET policies and system in Ukraine.

**Purpose and content of the event**

**The event will inform forthcoming policy development for the new Law on vocational education in Ukraine in the area of roles and responsibilities for the Regional VET Councils.**

Content:

The event will blend plenary and group discussion and is organised around four main blocks:

1. Presenting, discussing and validating for delivering a final version of the “Organizational and Functional Methodological Guidelines for regulating status and implementation of mandate and working activities of Regional VET Councils in Ukraine”.
2. Learning from the experience of relevant EU and international practices addressing Regional VET Governance and role and working outcomes of such Councils which can inspire their effective implementation in the Ukrainian context.
3. Presenting the methodology adopted and the results from the skills needs analysis in the construction sector in the Lviv Oblast as key outcome for further informing Ukrainian VET policies and support implementation of key tasks to be deployed by Regional VET Councils.
4. Identify key elements that can be adopted by and articulated in the VET Law to improve the final text within Regional Councils section, whilst anticipating capacities needed for professional performance of their mandates.

The event will conclude with agreement on agenda for action developed by participating Ministries, regional administrations, State Employment Services, skill providers and social partners outlining respective roles and a timeline.

There will be approximately 60 participants: representatives from relevant Ministries, employers’ representatives at national and regional levels, trade unions, Employment Service, regional representatives responsible for VET, VET Providers. International and EU Member States representatives will contribute to the event, local and international experts as well as the EU Delegation and other donors.

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## Regional Governance of VET skill policies and system in Ukraine: What role and responsibilities for the (new) Regional VET Councils

### Premier Hotel Dnister Lviv, 25 – 26 October 2017

# Agenda

## Day one, Wednesday 25 October 2017

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| 09:00 – 09:30 | Registration of participants  Welcome Coffee |
| 09:30 – 10:00 | **Opening session, Panorama conference room**  **VET decentralisation in Ukraine: the way to effective regional VET governance**  Chair: Anastasia Fetsi, ETF   * *Pavlo Khobzey, Deputy Minister of Education and Science* * *Juana Mera Cabello, First Counsellor, Head of Section Economic Cooperation, Social and Regional Development, EU Delegation* * *Rostyslav Zamlynskiy, First Deputy Head of Lviv State Administration* * *Anastasia Fetsi, Head of Operations Department, ETF* |
|  | **Session I: Introducing the Organizational and Functional Methodological Guidelines for (new) Regional VET Councils** |
| 10:00 – 11:00 | The Guidelines: a tool for guiding and steering (new) Regional VET Councils working procedures, dynamics and developments to support their status and management, as well as their effective and efficient performance of both Council and individual members (counsellors)  Chair: Anastasia Fetsi, ETF   * *Pavlo Khobzey, Deputy Minister of Education and Science* * *Rodion Kolyshko, National Expert* * *Jose Manuel Galvin Arribas, Specialist in Governance and Life-Long Learning, ETF* * *Hans Schustereder, International expert* |
| 11:00 – 11:30 | Coffee Break |
|  | **Session II: Discussing mandate, working procedures, management and information for the functioning of the (new) Regional VET Councils** |
| 11:30– 13:00 | Discussion in three working groups focussing on activating Regional VET Councils  Workshop A, Lobby conference room  Planning and competences of members  Workshop B, Oleksander conference room  Networking and communication  Workshop C, Panorama conference room  Accountability and public consultation |
| 13:00 – 14:15 | Lunch break |
|  | **Session III: Learning from international experience on Regional VET Governance** |
| 14:15 – 15:45 | Regional VET Governance and role of Councils: relevant EU and international experience  Presentations followed by working groups  Chair: Jose Manuel Galvin Arribas, ETF   * *Ildiko Pataki, Regional Coordinator, National Centre for TVET Development, Romania* * *Gabriele Marzano, Employment Policies Expert, Department VET, School, Employment and Knowledge Policy Planning, Regional Government of Emilia-Romagna, Italy* * *Hans Schustereder, International expert* * *Michal Kubisz, Representative of PolishAid to the "U LEAD with Europe" Programme* |
| 15:45 – 16:00 | Coffee Break |
|  | **Session IV: Presenting the results from the Sector Skills Analysis in Lviv** |
| 16:00 – 17:00 | Presentation of the results of the Sector Skills Analysis in Lviv  Chair: Jose Manuel Galvin Arribas, ETF   * *Iryna Fedets, National Expert* * *Olha Lysa, National Expert*   Open debate |
| 17:00 | Brief conclusions from Day I and expectations for Day II |
| 19:00 | Official dinner: meeting at lobby of the hotel  Walking to Restaurant Ratusha |

## Day two, Thursday 26 October 2017

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| 09:00 – 09:20 | Registration of participants  Welcome Coffee |
|  | **Session V: Reporting and discussion from Day I** |
| 09:20 – 10:30 | Reporting in plenary and facilitated discussion from work done in Day I |
| 10:30 – 11:00 | Coffee Break |
|  | **Session VI: panel discussion on the (new) Regional VET Councils** |
| 11:00 – 12:30 | National, regional and international participants: panel discussion on the (new) Regional VET Councils in Ukraine: VET legislation, scope and role of effective (new) Regional VET Councils, capacities needed, the way to implementation  Panel discussion facilitated by Anastasia Fetsi, ETF |
| 12:30 | **Closing session with key message and concrete next steps**   * *Liliya Hrynevych, Minister of Education and Science* * *Anastasia Fetsi, Head of Operations, ETF* |
| 13:00 | Lunch |

The work will continue in a dedicated working group focussing on the way forward

1. ( ) See please ETF report: Decentralizing VET in UA: Main outcomes and policy messages from the technical meeting and high-level policy forum on 3-4 April 2017. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)