

FLASH REPORT

Event name

Skills and Qualifications: Benefits for People, Lingotto, Torino 6-7 November 2019.

Main objective/s

To : (i) increase understanding and encourage communication and dialogue about skills and qualifications between policymakers and professionals; (ii) present our new publication “Skills and Qualifications: benefits for people” as a reference or orientation to both these sides of VET/LLL systems; (iii) ensure that people left the event able to identify what system elements they need to modernise and integrate to ensure the benefits of skills and qualifications actually reach people.

Background

The event was derived from, and communicated, findings from our new toolkit “Skills and qualifications - benefits for people”. We analysed how countries can embed qualification system reforms through integrating them with the other elements of VET/LLL systems and services – guidance, curricula, teaching - so that the benefits of skills development and acquisition of qualifications actually reach people.

We also built on, at the event, successful cases of practice which we had gathered for the toolkit, and so a second key message was that sharing experiences, developing and disseminating practical tools, networking and celebrating success, can be as important as clear policies.

SHORT DESCRIPTION OF THE EVENT

Our event lasted 1.5 days. There were five main blocks: plenary-workshops-plenary-marketplace-plenary. Key elements were a panel of partner country people, comprising professionals in guidance and teaching and policy people, describing good practice. Some cases were also the subject of special films made for the event, and shown at transition stages of the conference. ETF experts – the principal authors of the toolkit – used a Ted Talks-type format to present main findings from the toolkit.

On Day One, three workshops covered the main VET/LLL system elements we identified in the toolkit to , namely: Workshop 1, Information and Guidance; Workshop 2, Flexible Curricula; and Workshop 3, Future roles of teachers. Workshops 2 and 3 featured practical exercises, while Workshop 1 examined successful cases from the EU, South Africa and other countries/regions.

Day Two featured the City of Practice, a type of marketplace of proven good practices in the workshop/event themes. Cases came from ETF partner countries, EU countries and EU services and the wider world, such as South Africa.

As an instrument to support networking and co-creation of knowledge, ETF formally launched ETF Open Space, our new, multi-theamtic, online community.

KEY OUTCOMES/CONCLUSIONS

Our event did not present explicit recommendations, instead the goal was to initiate a dialogue, and send two messages to participants: (i) the need for dialogue between system policymakers and practising professionals; and (ii) integrating qualifications with curricula and teaching and guidance. Both these dimensions we linked to ETF's new Strategy 2020 to 2027.

Tangibly, follow-up actions will principally be executed via the three new projects, the multiannual and transversal Skills Hub, Creating New Learning and Centres of Vocational Excellence, the latter two of which will in particular engage professionals with policy makers in networks of experts and institutions/providers, to co-create knowledge.

We will also, including by using ETF Open Space, develop the toolkit, adding narrative sections, developing and testing tools, and using it in workshops and adding more of the success stories.

ETF contact person/s

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Not applicable.