

AGENDA

Forum on Vocational Excellence 2023 and GRETA meeting

Providing today's talent with the skills to build a great tomorrow

SUMMARY:

The present Agenda introduces the programme of two inter-related meetings: Forum on Vocational Excellence 2023 organised by the Community of Practice of Centres of Vocational Excellence taking place on 25 and 26 September and GRETA meeting (Greening Responses to Excellence through Thematic Actions) organised by the European Training Foundation (ETF) on 27 September.

Education and training (VET) providers, employers and governments have a shared responsibility to make sure the skills our workforce acquires are up to date with the latest needs and demands of society. This means curricula need to be revised regularly, both in terms of content and form, and new skills, like green skills, digital skills will be added. Furthermore, social and professional skills to work across boundaries of the own sector, the own country and the own type of profession are paramount to be able to address the complex society challenges. Thirdly, applied research and innovation in VET are incredibly important to share the latest developments with small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in the skills ecosystems, find proof of concepts for companies and stimulate the green and digital transition in our societies.

This is a huge challenge, but luckily there are many good examples of how VET providers, the labour market and governments have joined forces through the CoVEs in co-creating solutions that do exactly what is needed: offering good quality education and training, in line with society's needs, and offering additional services like applied research, innovation of professions and sharing context rich learning environments that are used for initial and continuous education and training alike.

During this Forum on Vocational Excellence, we will focus on these inspiring examples, bringing together the people involved, so they can share their knowledge, lessons learned and best practices with each other, so no one has to reinvent the wheel!

ETF is contributing to the Vocational Excellence Forum by sharing results of its two projects:

- 1) **International Dimension of the Centres of Vocational Excellence: Building a strong international cooperation dimension on Vocational Excellence**, funded by the European Commission, in particular, international self-assessment tool for CoVEs, concept and process of quality label and award on vocational excellence, findings of the study on the role of CoVEs in applied research. This will be presented at the workshop on 26 September [Round 1: Support services for CoVEs - part 1 \(covecoves.eu\)](https://covecoves.eu)

- 2) Thematic initiative GRETA (Greening Responses to Excellence through Thematic Actions) -meeting on 27 September.

GRETA is one of the thematic initiatives of the ETF Network of Excellence (ENE) and it promotes knowledge sharing, peer learning and collaboration of **CoVEs and VET providers** with a view to support their provision of green skills.

GRETA's **whole institutional framework** sets methodological frame for greening of VET around **five dimensions**: 1) Strategies for going green 2) Providing green skills throughout the curriculum 3) Enabling teachers and trainers to promote green skills 4) Collaborating on green initiatives with outside stakeholders 5) Funding green initiatives.

Day 1, Monday 25, September

[Day 1: Monday 25 september \(copcoves.eu\)](http://copcoves.eu)

On the first day of the Forum on Vocational Excellence, you will dive into the Dutch VET system by going on a site visit of your choice to one of the Dutch public private partnerships in VET. In these public private partnerships, VET providers, Universities of Applied Science, regional governments, employers and other stakeholders in the regional skills ecosystem are working on innovation in education, Lifelong Learning, applied research, sharing facilities and creating networks to ensure students and workers have the right skills to do their job.

Time	Agenda Item
8.00-9:30	Meeting in the lobby and going together to breakfast. Breakfast will be served at Aristo Café (Teleportboulevard 100, 1043 EJ Amsterdam)
9:45	Meeting at the lobby of the Hotel2 Stay. Welcome from the ETF and brief introductory meeting. Going together to ROC van Amsterdam (150 m from Hotel2Stay- Tempelhofstraat 2, 1043 EC Amsterdam; The Netherlands)
10.30 -13.00	Welcome and registration at ROC van Amsterdam (Tempelhofstraat 80, Amsterdam). Departure to the site visits (including lunchbox), specific times depend on the chosen public private partnership to visit. Please, check departure time for the site visit you have selected and find the right bus. Forum organisers (CoP COVEs) will take you by bus to your site visit and bring you back to Amsterdam afterwards.
13:00- 18.00	Site visits – you choose public private partnership to visit.
18:00 - 21:00	Return to Amsterdam (Amsterdam Sloterdijk) (Orlyplein, 1043 DV Amsterdam) From Amsterdam Sloterdijk you can take the train to Amsterdam Central Station for the canal cruise (including dinner). Dinner and Canal cruise Return to hotel: Local transport n. 4822 Amsterdam Centraal (Train) From Amsterdam, Central station To Amsterdam, Station Sloterdijk (2 minutes walking from the hotel)

Day 2, Tuesday, 26 September

Circa (Seineweg 2, Amsterdam)

The Forum 2023 is a hybrid event, with dedicated parts in the programme for both on site and online participants. In the program you find the sessions accessible online marked by a *.

Time	Agenda item	Speakers
7:45 – 8:00	Meeting in the lobby and going together to breakfast. Breakfast will be served at Aristo Café (Teleportboulevard 100, Amsterdam)	
8:45	Meeting at the lobby of the hotel to go by bus to Circa (bus will be provided)	
09.00 – 09.45	Welcome and start of the program	
09.45 – 11.00	<p>'Working on skills, what works?' *</p> <p>We will kick off the second day of the Forum with an interactive talk show with Mr. Nicolas Schmit, European Commissioner for Jobs and Social Rights, Mr. Robbert Dijkgraaf, Dutch Minister of Education, Culture and Science, Ms. Gaby Allard, member of the executive board of the VET College of Amsterdam and board member of the Dutch association of VET providers, Ms. Rossella Ricco, senior expert on diversity management at GiGroup (part of the GIVE CoVE) and Ms. Anna Rossband of euro apprentice.</p> <p>In this European Year of Skills, the CoVes, the EU's flagship initiative in skills innovation is running since 4 years. So we will discuss with the speakers: what works? Where can we increase our efforts and how can we spread the working models? Focus of the discussion will naturally be on how we can provide today's talent with the skills to build a great tomorrow.</p> <p>* This talk show will be streamed live. If you would like to receive the streaming link, please register for online participation in the registration form.</p>	<p>Mr. Nicolas Schmit, European Commissioner for Jobs and Social Rights,</p> <p>Mr. Robbert Dijkgraaf, Dutch Minister of Education, Culture and Science</p> <p>Ms. Gaby Allard, member of the executive board of the VET College of Amsterdam and board member of the Dutch association of VET providers</p> <p>Ms. Rossella Ricco, senior expert on diversity management at GiGroup (part of the GIVE CoVE)</p> <p>Ms. Anna Rossband of euro apprentice</p>
11.00- 11.45	Coffee break	Enjoying a cup of coffee together is an excellent way of getting to know someone. Therefore, during all breaks, all current Centers of Vocational Excellence will be represented at the CoVE Plaza, where coffee and lunch will be served

11.45 – 13.00	Round 1 of workshops <i>A variety of interactive workshops Workshops (copcoves.eu), co-created and moderated by project leaders of the various CoVEs and other experts</i>	<i>ETF workshop:</i> Round 1: Support services for CoVEs - part 1 (copcoves.eu)
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch	
14.00- 15.30	Round 2 of workshops	<i>Speakers Corner: pitch, network and get inspired! All participants can submit ideas through the link in the event app.</i>
15.30- 16.00	Coffee break	
16.15 – 17.30	Round 3 of workshops <i>A variety of interactive workshops Workshops (copcoves.eu), co-created and moderated by project leaders of the various CoVEs and other experts</i>	
17.30 -18.00	Wrap up and drinks <i>While you enjoy a well-deserved drink and a typical Dutch bitterbal, we will briefly wrap up the day and announce the location of next year's Forum on Vocational Excellence!</i>	
18:00	Return back to the hotel (bus will be provided)	
19:30	Meeting in the lobby of the hotel to go together to welcome by public transport.	
20:00- 22.00	ETF Welcome dinner Ristorante La Tarantella , Bentinckstraat 32, 1051 GL Amsterdam in the centre of the city	

Day 3, Wednesday, 27 September

ETF GRETA meeting

Wicked Ground – meeting rooms The Space

(Address: Generaal Vetterstraat 55 1059BT Amsterdam)

Within ETF Network of Excellence (ENE), the green VET initiative, GRETA – Greening Responses to Excellence through Thematic Actions – focuses on skills development and supports the greening of VET as response to the green and digital transitions.

We take the opportunity to meet with the core group of CoVEs that have followed GRETA since October 2021.

We will update each other on the state of greening activities and take a close dive into the GRETA report 'Greening vocational education training. Processes, practices and policies'.

Jointly we will exchange on the key building block for greening CoVEs and how to move forward based in the policy recommendations in the GRETA report.

Link to report: [GRETA report.pdf \(europa.eu\)](https://www.etf.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2023-05/GRETA%20report.pdf)

Time	Agenda Item	Speaker
8:00	Meeting at the lobby of the hotel and departure to the venue	
8:30- 9:00	Welcome coffee	
9.00 – 9.15	Welcome and presentation of programme	Georgios Zisimos , Head of Policy Advice and EU Programming, ETF Susanne M. Nielsen , Lead Expert for GRETA, ETF Inna Dergunova , Project Manager, Vocational Excellence, ETF
9.15 – 9.30	Top of the agenda A green recovery and reconstruction of Ukraine Green skills needs, key role of CoVEs and VET reforms CoVEs from Odessa, Mykholaiv, Mukachevo, Kalush and Khmelnytskyi present at the Forum on Vocational Excellence	Iryna Shumik, Director , VET Directorate, Ukrainian Ministry of Education and Science
9.30 – 9.50	Greening of VET – processes, policies and practices Presentation of peer learning process, findings and recommendations from ETFs Network for Excellence – ENE – Green Partnership: GRETA Report available at: https://www.etf.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2023-05/GRETA%20report.pdf	Susanne M. Nielsen , Lead Expert for GRETA, ETF
09.50 - 11.00	Presentation round of CoVEs: Short presentation of participating institutions with focus on: - Cooperation with stakeholders in developing and implementing green curricula - Success stories on collaboration with the stakeholders	Participating CoVEs Facilitated exchange
11.00 - 11.15	Coffee break	

11.15 - 13.00	<p>Lessons learnt and looking ahead</p> <p>CoVEs best practices - 15 min Solski center Nova Gorica, Slovenia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -From development to implementation of green curricula through new forms of partnership collaboration -Comparing to the past, what do we do now different in collaboration with the stakeholders to be able to offer up-to-date green curricula <p>Groupwork</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Critical interactions within VET partnerships in developing and implementing the green curricula -Stakeholder mapping within the individual interaction <p>CoVEs best practices - 15 min CoVE practice: Construct2, Georgia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Collaboration with industry in green skills identification and implementation <p>Groupwork</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Forward-looking interactions within the stakeholder partnership which will enable faster update of the green curricula, address faster the green labour market needs and make a visible impact on our communities 	<p>Susanne M. Nielsen Lead Expert for GRETA, ETF Adrijana Hodak, Leder of In-Company Training Centre, Solski center Nova Gorica, Slovenia,</p> <p>Feedback from CoVEs</p> <p>Tamar Zakarashvili, Director, Construction College 'Construct 2'</p>
13.00 - 14.00	Lunch	
14.00 - 15.00	<p>Efficient forms of collaboration between industry and skills providers</p> <p>National/regional/local skills eco system – from the industry perspective</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Key building blocks of the Danish VET system - Identification of skills/competences (sector councils, job profiles, development of competences) - Implementation of training programmes - Insights on quick adaptation of green programmes through 	<p>Anja Trier Wang, senior consultant, Confederation of Danish Industry</p> <p>Facilitated exchange with CoVEs</p>

	<p>efficient and new forms of collaboration</p> <p>Focus points -What can industry do better? -What can CoVEs could do better from the industry perspective ?</p>	
15.00 - 15.10	<p>Danube Region Strategy - Supporting green transition and building prosperity</p> <p>- Contribution of CoVEs within Danube region to promote green skills through connected regional stakeholders</p>	<p>Jürgen Schick, Deputy Head of Department, Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research, Austria</p>
15.10 - 15.20	<p>Short coffee break</p>	
15.20 - 16.00	<p>Enablers for moving towards excellence</p> <p>Group work on policy recommendations - Prioritization of 3-5 pain points of the forward-looking interactions within the stakeholder partnership</p>	<p>Susanne M. Nielsen</p> <p>Adrijana Hodak</p>
16.00 - 16.25	<p>Next steps – and key activities in GRETA 2023/2024</p> <p>Co-design with CoVEs on needs and interests</p>	<p>Susanne M. Nielsen</p> <p>Inna Dergunova</p> <p>Facilitated exchange with CoVEs</p>
16.25 - 16.35	<p>Wrap up</p>	<p>Susanne M. Nielsen and Georgios Zisimos</p>