

AGENDA

TITLE:

Forum on vocational excellence 2025 and Peer Learning visit in the area of digital teaching and learning

**8-11 SEPTEMBER 2025,
KOLDING - COPENHAGEN (DENMARK)**

**FORUM ON VOCATIONAL EXCELLENCE WILL BE HOSTED BY
CAMPUS KOLDING, UNIVERSITETSPARKEN 1 – 2, 6000 KOLDING**

BACKGROUND

In a world rapidly transformed by digitalisation and the pressing need for sustainability, industries are evolving at an unprecedented pace. This shift demands **fresh skill sets and innovative training models**—and **at the forefront of this transformation are the Centres of Vocational Excellence (CoVEs)**. CoVEs are **leading the way** in preparing learners to thrive in the digital and green transitions.

The ETF Network for Excellence (ENE) has undertaken various activities over the past three years in the domain of **digitalisation of education**. The ENE sub-initiative on digital excellence, known as DIGI ENE, is composed of Centres of Excellence that demonstrate noteworthy practices in digital teaching and learning. These centres are also dedicated to ongoing enhancement in this field through diverse peer learning activities with other members. For more information, please refer to [DIGI ENE Initiative for digital excellence - highlights from 2024](#).

ETF is giving the opportunity to the DIGI ENE members to present a collection of best practices at the **Forum of Vocational Excellence**, and to attend a peer learning visit to relevant key stakeholders in Denmark.

The fourth [Forum on Vocational Excellence](#) is organised in Kolding, Denmark, from 8 until 10 September 2025. The event creates a platform for learning for the whole Community of Practice of CoVEs. One of the main goals is to provide matchmaking opportunities between the CoVEs, both nationally and internationally.

After the Forum, the DIGI ENE group will leave Kolding and move to Copenhagen, and attend a study visit to **leading VET actors and institutions** in innovative teaching and learning.

The peer learning visit will provide an immersive experience to the participants, facilitating **networking** with other practitioners; encouraging **reflection** on the individual practices and needs and should support knowledge transfer.

PROGRAMME

Arrival of participants in Kolding: 08/09/2025

Day 1: 08/09/2025

During the day	Arrival of participants and check-in at Milling Hotel Saxildhus (Banegårdspladsen 1, DK-6000 Kolding)
14.30 - 17.00	CoVE CUP football game will be arranged
18:00 – 20:00	Welcome reception with drinks and appetizers at Koldinghus
20:00 – 22:00	Dinner (DIGI ENE group only) at Restaurant Rafaels (Slotsgade 17 - 6000 Kolding)

Day 2: 09/09/2025

Time	Agenda Item
8:00 – 8:45	Registration and coffee – Venue: Vaeveriet, https://www.vaeveriet.com/ (Dalbygade 40D, 6000 Kolding)
8:45 – 9:45	<p>Opening of the Forum</p> <p>Plenary session</p> <p>Moderator: Rogier Elshout</p> <p>Unofficial opening chat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• With Boudewijn, Ragnhild & Henriette <p>Welcoming introductions from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcome to Kolding; a UNESCO City of Design, by Iben Lehmann Rasmussen, Member of City Council and Chairperson of Social Affairs and Employment Committee.• Welcome to Campus Kolding; a local skills eco system, by Mikael Sorknæs, Chief of Staff for Business, Education and Settlement.• Live from the VET schools – what is the current state of play from the VET students' perspectives, by Mads Haugbølle, President of the Danish VET Student's Association• Welcome to the Forum on Vocational Excellence, by Director for Jobs and Skills Manuela Geleng, DG Employment
9:45 – 10:45	<p>Panel discussion 1: Excellence in VET</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Theodor Grassos, Secretary General, EVBB• Mads Haugsbøl, Secretary General, Danish VET Student's Association• Adelaide Almera, Project coordinator AILEEN project and European Federation for Welding, Joining and Cutting• Pilvi Torsti, Director European Training Foundation• Anna Banczyk, Head of Unit, DG EMPL• Juergen Siebel, Director CEDEFOP
10:45 – 11:15	Coffee break and networking
11:15 – 12:15	<p>Panel discussion 2: EU Competitiveness and VET</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Troels Lund, Chief analytic, Economic Council of the Labour Movement

Time	Agenda Item
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signe Tychsen Philip, Vice Director, Confederation of Danish Industries • Ludovic Voet, Confederational Secretary, European Trade Union Confederation • Manuela Geleng, Director DG EMPL • Dàire Horgan, Project manager, T-Shore CoVE Project • Mette Schack, Mason and opinion leader for gender equality
12:15 – 13.30	Short walk from Væveriet to Campus Kolding, Address of the venue: Universitetsparken 1, 6000 Kolding Lunch and networking
13:30 -15:00	1st Workshop session - (See the workshops on the conference website)
15:00 - 15:30	Coffee break and networking
15:30 – 17:00	2nd Workshop session - (See the workshops on the conference website)
17:00 – 18:30	Poster session, a glass of champagne and jazz music Venue: Kolding Education Center, Ågade 27, 6000 Kolding
18.30 – 22.30	Walking dinner and events in the educational institutions in Kolding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Street food designed to reflect the image and approach of the educational institutions. The participants will be guided so that they visit the educational institutions during the evening, which will be organised with presentations of the institutions, events, shows and exhibitions prepared by students from the educational institutions. Possibilities to make networking activities and collaboration agreements.

Day 3: 10/09/2025 – Study Visit Day 1

Time	Agenda Item
8:00 – 17:00	Bus ride to the study visit locations (across Jutland and Fyn) Lunch will be served during the study visits In close collaboration with CoVE projects in Denmark, the following study visits are proposed to the participants (50 participants per study trip): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Vocational Excellence in Offshore, Energy and Climate (Esbjerg) 2. Innovating Green Solutions: Visit to Byggros A/S in Odense 3. From Project to Practice: Exploring the Impact of EPLUG CoVE project at Green Academy Aarhus 4. Vocational Excellence through simulation training (Fredericia & Haderslev) 5. Responsible Farming (Kolding and Odense) 6. Exploring excellence in Dairy Education and Innovation (Odense and Taulov) 7. Danish model for excellent development of educational content and learner frameworks (Håndværker kollegiet i Horsens) 8. Excellence in Social inclusion (Visit to the “AspIT Programme” with special focus on training of and inclusion in enterprises of young people with an aspergers diagnosis) (Aarhus) On the way back to Kolding a visit to an enterprise engaging students from the AspIT programme will be organised. 9. Visit to Euroskills 2025, Herning
16:00 – 17:30	Closing session – Venue: Vaeveriet (Dalbygade 40D, 6000 Kolding)

Time	Agenda Item
	<p>Celebrating the students that have participated in the implementation of the Forum. They all receive a diploma for participation. Moderator: Rogier Elshout (TBC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mattias Tesfaye, Danish Minister for Education and Children • Mario Nava, Director General DG EMPL, European Commission • Visit from Euroskills in Herning (TBC) • Main sponsors for the Forum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Mark Vitterup Søgaard, Region of Southern Denmark ▫ Villum Foundation (TBC) • Organisers of next years' Forum
19:00	Dinner together (for DIGI ENE group only) at Skagen Fiskerestaurant (Akseltorv 8a DK-6000 Kolding)

Day 4: 11/09/2025 – Study Visit Day 2 – for DIGI ENE group

Time	Agenda Item
8:30 – 11:00	Transport to Copenhagen
11:00 – 12:30	Study visit – Digital Hub Denmark (Langebrogade 3B, Copenhagen) https://www.digitalhubdenmark.dk/
12:30 – 14.00	Lunch at Radisson Hotel Restaurant (Amager Boul. 70, 2300 Copenhagen)
14:00 -14.30	Transport to Babette Guldsmiden Hotel
14.45 – 15.45	Sprint Circle meeting at Hotel Babette
16.00	Babette Guldsmiden Hotel – free time
19.30	Farewell dinner in hotel restaurant (Babette Guldsmiden Bredgade 78, 1260 Copenhagen)

Day 5: 12/09/2025 – Departure of participants