

# VET IN AUSTRIA

Eastern Partnership Annual Regional forum on Work based Learning in VET  
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# Statistics Austria

- Surface: 83.871 km<sup>2</sup>
- Capital city: Wien
- Inhabitants: 8,7 Mio
- 9 federal states

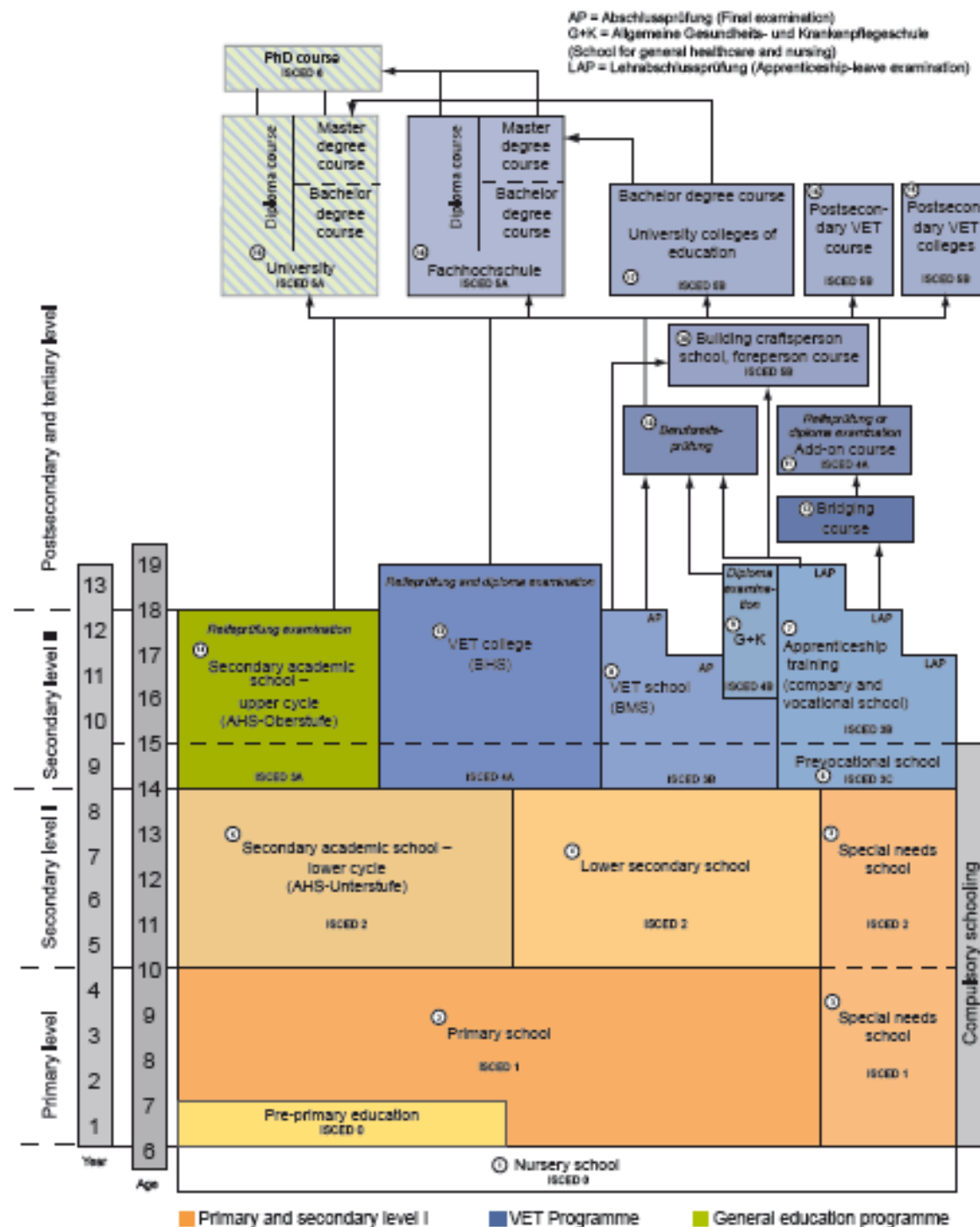


# Statistics Austria

- Unemployment rate : 4,8% (07 2018 , EUROSTAT)
- (EU28-unemployment rate: 6,8 % (07 2018, EUROSTAT)
- Youth unemployment: 9,4 % (age 15 - 24, 07 2018, EUROSTAT)
- (EU28 - youth unemployment: 16,6 % (age 15 - 24 , 07 2018, EUROSTAT)
  
- Young people in initial VET at upper secondary level: 80 %
- Highest percentage of all European Union and OECD Countries







# VOCATIONAL COLLEGES

- **Colleges of engineering, arts and crafts:** e.g. mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, electronics, computer systems and organisation, construction technology, chemical engineering, textile engineering
- **Colleges of fashion and artistic design**
- **Colleges of service industries and tourism**
- **Colleges of business administration**
- **Colleges of agriculture and forestry:** e.g. agriculture and horticulture, wine and fruit growing, forestry, dairy production)





## ➤ VOCATIONAL COLLEGES

- Offer general education and occupation related training
- The curriculum is divided into three equal parts:
  - **general education, vocational theory and vocational practice**
  - (in school work shops, laboratories, virtual companies, kitchens and other practice facilities)
- Compulsory periods of practical training in business and industry during the summer holidays



# VOCATIONAL COLLEGES

## Admission:

- successful completion of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade, in some subjects entrance examination or aptitude test (arts)
- **Duration:** 5 years (from 14 to 19)
- **Qualification:** matriculation examination giving access to all universities + vocational qualification giving access to regulated trades;
- **ISCED Level 2011:** 5
- **Good career prospects**
- **Enrollment:** 26 % of an age cohort





# ➤ VOCATIONALSCHOOLS

- Wide range of subjects
- Offer general education and occupation related training
- The curriculum is divided into three equal parts:
  - **general education, vocational theory and vocational practice**
  - (in school work shops, laboratories, virtual companies, kitchens and other practice facilities)
- Compulsory periods of practical training in business and industry during the summer holidays



# VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS

- **Duration:** 1 – 4 years, the majority has a duration of 3 years (age 14 – 17), **ISCED level 2011: 4**
- General education, vocational theory and vocational practice
- Focus on **practical training** in school workshops, laboratories and practical classes
- **Compulsory practical training** in an enterprise during the summer holidays
- School leaving certificate does not give access to universities, but there is a possibility to follow „bridging courses“ (2 to 3 years) leading to the matriculation examination
- School leaving certificate gives access to **regulated professions**

**Enrollment: 14% of an age cohort**





# DUAL TRAINING SYSTEM

- Training takes place in **two places** („dual system“): training enterprise and part-time vocational school

Apprenticeship

Training Company

Vocational School

- **Duration:** two to four years, mostly three years



# DUAL TRAINING SYSTEM

## Entrance requirements:

to be over compulsory school age (successful completion of lower secondary school is not a condition)

**Duration:** 2 – 4 years (in most cases 3 years)

**3,5 or 4 days:** training in the company

**1 or 1,5 days:** in part time vocational school

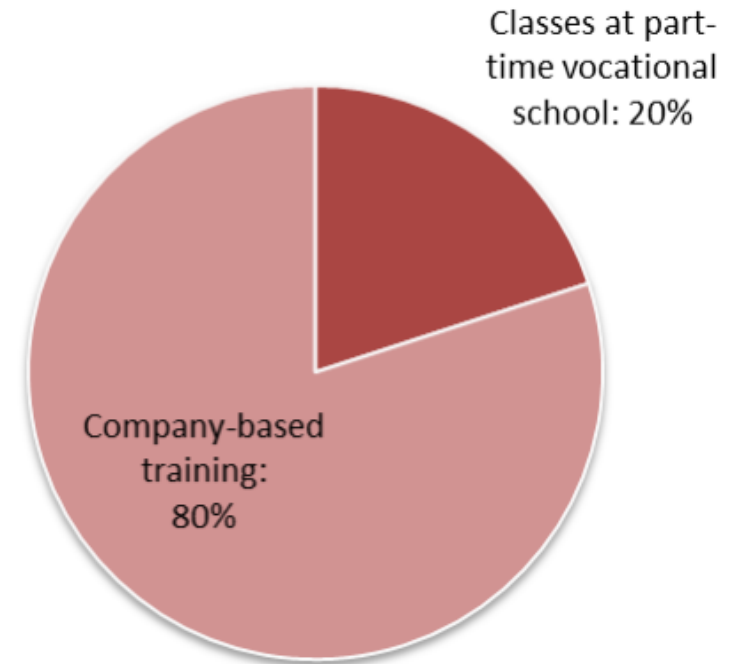
**in rural areas:** Block system, several weeks in school and rest of the year in the company

## In the part time vocational school:

$\frac{2}{3}$  occupation related technical tuition,  $\frac{1}{3}$  general education

**Enrollment:** 38% of an age cohort

**ISCED Level:** 4



**Distribution of learning time**





## ➤ DUAL TRAINING SYSTEM

### ➤ **Conditions:**

- Willingness of companies to train the apprentices
- Qualified and interested students
- Well defined curricula and standards for the qualifications
- Definition of the qualifications in co-operation with the trades and social partners
- Co-operation between school and company



# DUAL TRAINING SYSTEM

- 214 Apprenticeship vocations
- 110.000 Apprentices
- = 40 percent of the peer group
- 32.000 apprenticeship training companies





## DUAL TRAINING SYSTEM

### ***Berufsreifeprüfung*** (BRP) – A-Level exam

- Introduction in 1997 to increase permeability and attractiveness of VET
- Attract ambitious and talented young people  
No dead-ends in education
- Gives access to all forms of tertiary education and to public employment at respective level
- Four partial exams: German, mathematics, foreign language, specialist area
- Target group: people with VET qualification - apprenticeship graduates, graduates of VET schools, etc.



# DUAL TRAINING SYSTEM – Supracompany Training

- Training guarantee for young people who cannot be placed into regular apprenticeship posts
- Company replaced by a **training center**
- Participants receive an apprenticeship salary from the government  
1st and 2nd year : 300 €/month, 3rd and 4th year : 600 €/month
- Approximately 9.000 participants
- 100 different trades
- Total cost per year and participant : 14.000 to 16.000 €



# DUAL TRAINING SYSTEM – Integrative VET

Special apprenticeship programs for young people at risk

Vocational training for socially disadvantaged or less gifted people

## **Types:**

- a)** Acquisition of partial qualifications – duration: 1 to 3 years
- b)** Apprenticeship with a longer training period: prolongation of the programme by 1 to max. 2 years

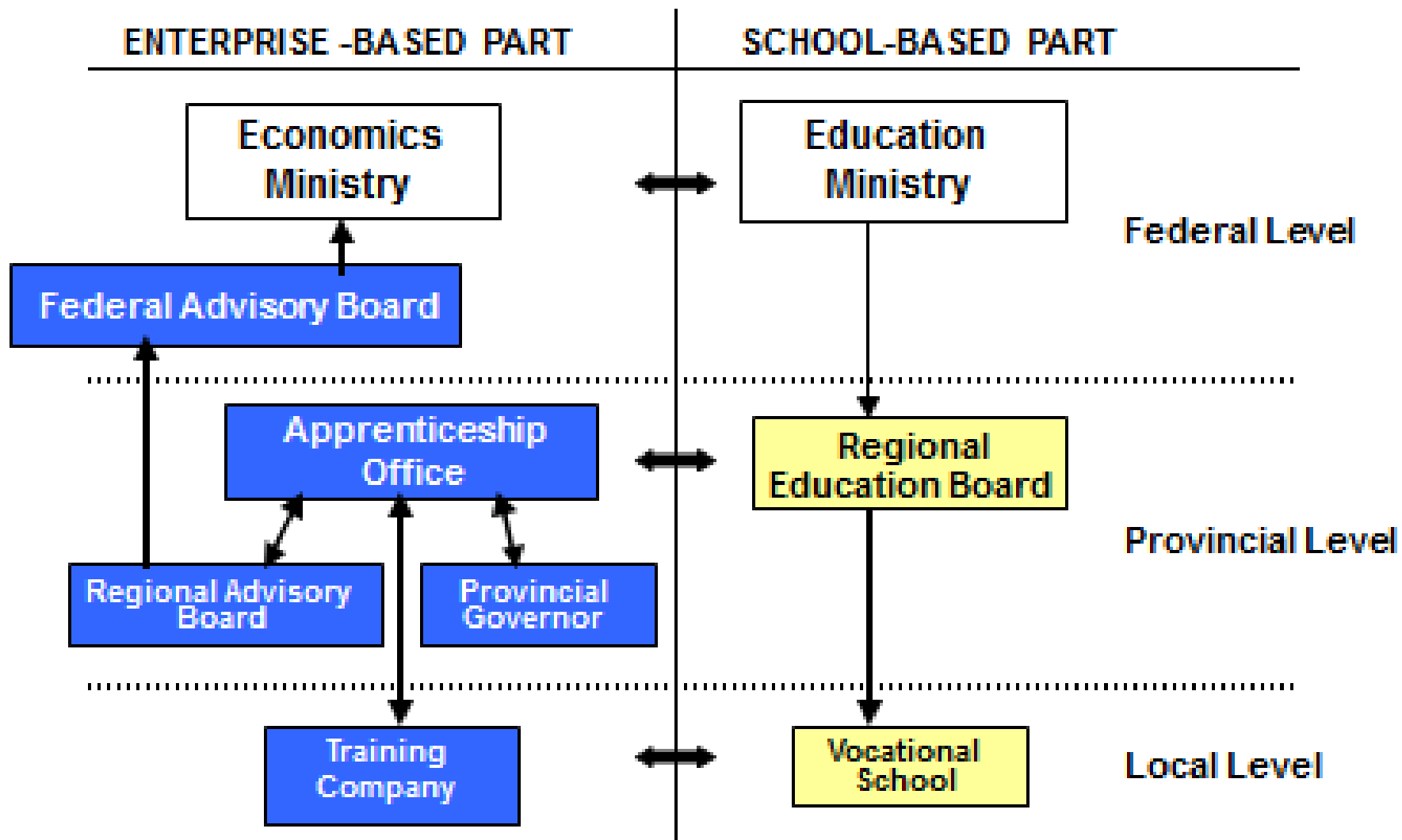




## DUAL TRAINING SYSTEM – RNFIL

- Application at the Ministry of Economic Affairs
- Admission to the Final Apprenticeship Exam without previous apprenticeship
- Preparatory courses financed by the Ministry of Labour with a duration of up to 1,5 years
- Final Exam at the Regional Economic Chamber and Regular Apprenticeship Certificate
- Appr. 20 % of all Apprenticeship Exams come from this not traditional way





# DUAL TRAINING SYSTEM – Regional Chambers

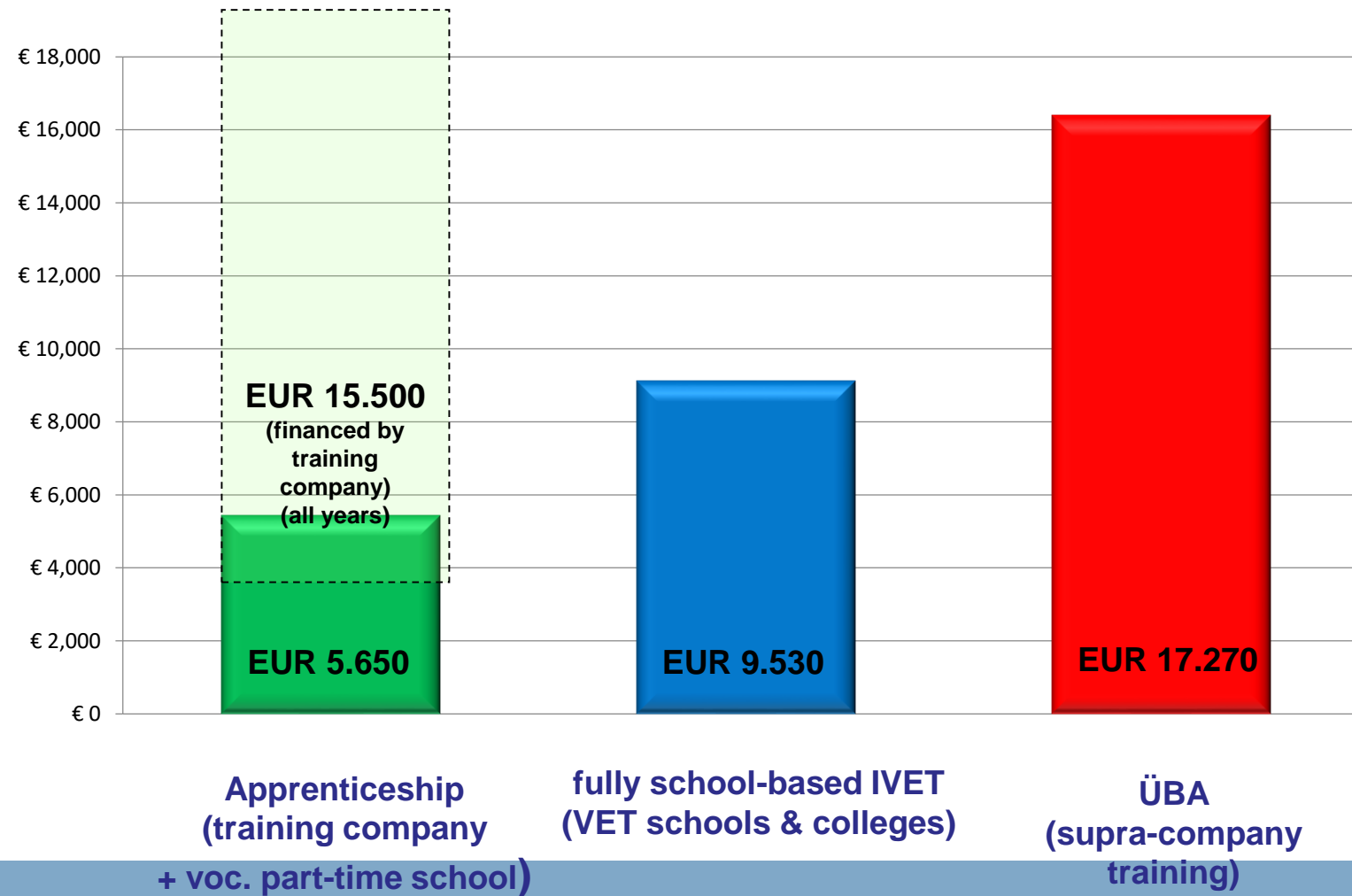
## **Apprenticeship offices (first-instance vocational training authorities):**

- Set up at the provincial chambers of economy
- Apprenticeship authority at the first level
- Examination of suitability of training enterprises (personal and technical aspects)
- Checking and registration of apprenticeship agreements
- Secretariat of Provincial Advisory Board on Apprenticeship
- Advice for training enterprises
- Advice for apprentices
- Organisation of final apprenticeship exams





## ■ DUAL TRAINING SYSTEM – Costs per year



# DUAL TRAINING – FINANCING

- **Training companies** provide and pay for company based part of training and training infrastructure within the company
  - trainer salaries = employees,
  - apprentice remuneration (=wage for the apprentice)
- **Federal and regional governments** provide and finance the school based-part of training (pro rata)
  - The costs for equipment of part-time vocational schools (machinery, teaching material etc.) are borne by the federal provinces
  - The federal government and the provinces share costs for the teaching staff equally



# DUAL TRAINING – FINANCING

## **Support to training companies** by the government

- Basic subsidiation (1s year: 3 apprenticeship salaries, 2<sup>nd</sup> year:2; 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year 1)
- Quality-related subsidies – such as for training alliances, training of trainers, preparatory courses for examinations, Combination with Berufsreifeprüfung, Work placements abroad, ...
- Coaching for apprentices; practical help such as manuals etc.
- Waiving of insurance costs Application at Apprenticeship Offices of the Regional Economic Chambers





# Apprenticeship Training      School based IVET

**Predominantly: learning in training company (70-80% of total training duration)  
=> 20-30% in comp. part time VET schools**

**Predominantly (up to 100%) learning in school, i.e. “fully” school based IVET**  
**+ practical learning in simulation settings** (work in workshops, laboratories, kitchens, practice firms, etc.)  
**+ voluntary/mandatory work placements in business (alternance / internships)**  
**+ business projects**



# Apprenticeship Training      School based IVET

**Demand-led system**

**=> Youth is an employee  
(training contract)**

**Trainers (employees)**

**System is mainly governed  
by:**

**Employers / Social Partners  
Ministries (of Education,  
Economic Affairs, Labour)**

**Student/supply-led system**

**=> Youth is a student**

**▪ Teachers**

**▪ Ministry (of Education)**



# Success Factors of VET in Austria

- High Prestige of VET
- Permeability
- Good co-operation with the business world
- Labour-market oriented curricula and focus on employability
- Very diversified training offer at upper secondary level
- Safety nets for young people at risk
- VET teachers and trainers must have at least two years of practical experience



# Ideas for Introducing VET and Workbased Learning in a new country/ context

## **„Apprenticeship light“**

- Definition of qualifications in co-operation with the relevant business sectors
- Development of learning outcomes and recognition systems for non-formal and informal learning
- Improving esteem of VET through improved permeability to continuing and higher education
- Developing internships and forms of dual training
- Introducing vocational courses in schools for general upper secondary education





# Thank you for your attention!





**EUROPEAN VOCATIONAL  
SKILLS WEEK**  
5 to 9 November 2018 | Vienna, Austria  
#DiscoverYourTalent

