



Conference “The Role of VET in Making Education More Inclusive”

12-13 November, 2013
Vilnius

Venue: Radisson Blu Hotel Lietuva,
Konstitucijos Av. 20, Vilnius

Programme

Tuesday November 12th, 2013

DAY 1

13.00 – 15.00	Lunch
14.00 – 15.00	Registration
15.00 – 15:20	Welcome <i>Dainius Pavalkis</i> , Minister of Education and Science of the Republic of Lithuania <i>Xavier Prats Monné</i> , Deputy Director General of DG Education and Culture, European Commission
15.20 – 15.50	Keynote speech: How VET can address labour market needs and be open and inclusive to different groups <i>Juergen Siebel</i> , Head of International Business, Siemens Professional Education, Germany
15.50 – 16.20	Keynote speech: Strategies for inclusive VET in countries outside the EU. Community colleges: a model for growth in an era of change <i>Eduardo J. Padrón</i> , President of Miami Dade College, USA
16.20 – 16.30	Introduction into workshops
16.30 – 17.00	Coffee break
17.00 – 18.30	Round 1 Workshops (3 parallel workshops)
17.00 – 18.30	WS 1: Enhancing VET provision to meet the needs of people with fewer opportunities Moderator: <i>Serge Ebersold</i> , Head of the International Research Unit on Special Needs Issues, National Higher Institute for Training and Research for the Education of Young Disabled Persons and Adapted Teaching, INS HEA, France Vocational education and training for social inclusion, <i>Madlen Serban</i> , Director, and <i>Anastasia Fetsi</i> , Head of Thematic Expertise Department, European Training Foundation Rapporteur: <i>Jonas Ruškus</i> , Dean of Faculty of Social Sciences, Vytautas Magnus University, Lithuania <i>This workshop will discuss measures aiming to raise the skills levels and the participation in learning of people with fewer opportunities including those with low qualifications. Good practice examples to increase inclusiveness of VET will be identified.</i>

17.00 – 18.30	<p>WS 2: VET and early school leaving</p> <p>Moderator: <i>Christian Lettmayr</i>, Deputy Director, Cedefop</p> <p>The role of career guidance in preventing ESL, <i>Aleksandra Sokolova</i>, the European Lifelong Guidance Policy Network</p> <p>Rapporteur: <i>Henrik Saxtorph</i>, Head of Section, Danish Ministry of Children and Education</p> <p><i>Students who have difficulties with or who drop out of general education often arrive to VET programmes. VET can offer a more practical focus for those students who do not thrive in more general education systems. But the picture is complex. In many countries, dropout from VET is more widespread than from general education.</i></p> <p><i>This workshop will focus on two aspects of early school leaving and VET; on the one hand, high-quality VET as a means to prevent ESL and, on the other, tackling ESL and dropout as a challenge facing VET institutions and systems.</i></p> <p><i>The workshop takes place against the background of the Europe 2020 headline target which aims to reduce the number of early leavers from education and training to 10 %, and will take into consideration the 2011 Council Recommendation on policies to reduce ESL. According to the Recommendation, strategies and measures of prevention, intervention and compensation should also address VET and its specific challenges.</i></p>
17.00 – 18.30	<p>WS 3: Widening access to continuing VET</p> <p>Moderator: <i>Thomas Oberholzner</i>, Deputy Director, KMU Forschung Austria</p> <p>The findings of study Return to work – Work-based learning and the reintegration of unemployed adults into the labour market, <i>Alexandra Dehmel</i>, Expert, Cedefop</p> <p>Rapporteur: <i>Jeff Bridgford</i>, Visiting Senior Research Fellow, Department of Education and Professional Studies, King's College London, United Kingdom</p> <p><i>This workshop takes place against the background of the European benchmark which aims to increase adult participation in lifelong learning to at least 15 %. It will look at statistical evidence on training participation in enterprises, and in particular at the obstacles for participation, as well as at the measures which can overcome these obstacles.</i></p> <p><i>It will also try to identify innovative and successful ways of providing training for adults in order to make training more accessible for a greater number of individuals.</i></p>
19.15	Departure for dinner

Wednesday November 13th, 2013

DAY 2

9.30 – 11.00	Round 2 Workshops (3 parallel workshops)
9.30 – 11.00	WS 1: Enhancing VET provision to meet the needs of people with fewer opportunities
9.30 – 11.00	WS 2: VET and early school leaving
9.30 – 11.00	WS 3: Widening access to continuing VET
11.00 – 11.30	Coffee break
11.30 – 12.00	Main findings of the Survey of Adult Skills (PIAAC) <i>Ji-Eun Chung</i> , Policy Analyst, Directorate for Education and Skills, OECD <i>António Silva Mendes</i> , Director for Education and Vocational Training, DG Education and Culture, European Commission
12.00 – 12.45	Workshop results and the way forward <i>Rapporteurs from all 3 workshops</i> <i>Saulius Zybartas</i> , Director of Department of General Education and Vocational Training, Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Lithuania <i>Alison Crabb</i> , Deputy Head of Unit Vocational Training and Adult Learning, European Commission
12.45 – 13.00	Conference overview <i>António Silva Mendes</i> , European Commission <i>Saulius Zybartas</i> , Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Lithuania
13.00	Lunch