



Minute of the Working Meeting of Joint Activities

of the ERISSE VET Cluster of Knowledge and of the WG4 *Support lifelong learning and expand learning mobility* of PA 9 “*Invest in people and skills*” of EUSDR

15 June, Bucharest, Romania

Opening

The meeting was organised within the Education Congress on 14-15 June 2013 in Bucharest, Romania.

The participants gathered two main working groups:

- The Education Reform Initiative in South East Europe (ERISSE) Vocational Education and training (VET) Cluster of knowledge (CoK)
- The Working Group 4 (WG 4) *Support lifelong learning and expand learning mobility* of Priority Area 9 (PA 9) “*Invest in people and skills*” of European Union Strategy on Danube Region (EUSDR)

and representatives of the European Training Foundation (ETF), ERISSE and of KulturKontakt Austria.

Romania, represented by The National Centre for TVET Development, had the leading role for the VET CoK and for the EUSDR PA9 WG4 and its representatives were the hosts of the meeting.

The meeting was chaired by Ms. Gabriela Liliana Ciobanu, Director of the National Centre for TVET Development (NCTVETD) in Romania.

List of participants

		Name	Position, Institution	Country
1	Ms.	Gabriela Liliana Ciobanu	Director, National Centre for TVET Development (NCTVETD)	Romania
2	Ms.	Dana Carmen Stroie	Head of Unit for Training Programmes and Quality Assurance, National Centre for TVET Development (NCTVETD)	Romania
3	Ms.	Elena Beatrice Cerkez	Expert organisation and monitoring of teacher training programme, National Centre for TVET Development (NCTVETD)	Romania
4	Mr.	Viorel Țigănescu	Expert, assessment and certification in VET, National Centre for TVET Development (NCTVETD)	Romania
5	Ms.	Elizabeth Watters	Senior Specialist in VET education policy, European Training Foundation (ETF)	Italy
6	Ms.	Jasminka Čekić Marković	Director, Education Reform Initiative in South East Europe (ERISSE), Centre for Education Policy/ERI SEE Interim Agency	Serbia



		Name	Position, Institution	Country
7	Ms.	Nevena Adžić	Programme Coordinator, Centre for Education Policy/ERI SEE Interim Agency	Serbia
8	Mr.	Christian Estermann	Austrian Educational Coordinator, KulturKontakt Austria	Austria
ERISEE member countries/partners				
9	Mr.	Ilija Paluka	Director, National VET Agency	Albania
10	Ms.	Rumyana Lalova	Chief expert in “Educational programmes and educational content”, VET Department, Ministry of Education, Youth and Science	Bulgaria
11	Mr.	Darko Belovic	Head of Department for Vocational Education and Adult Education , Ministry of Science, Education and Sports	Croatia
12	Ms.	Hrvojka Lausic Ramljak	Head of Section for International Cooperation, Agency for Vocational Education and Training and Adult Education	Croatia
13	Mr.	Zeqir Zeqiri	Director VET	Macedonia
14	Ms.	Nada Stoimenova	Adviser for primary and secondary education, Ministry of Education and Science	Macedonia
15	Ms.	Ludmila Gherasimenco	Consultant VET Department, Ministry of Education	Republic of Moldova
16	Mr.	Radu Moldovanu	Consultant in a Vocational Education and Training Department, Ministry of Education	Republic of Moldova
17	Ms.	Ivana Mihailovic	Adviser for International Cooperation and Public Relations, Centre for Vocational Education and Training	Montenegro
18	Mr.	Duško Rajković	Centre for Vocational Education and Training	Montenegro
19	Ms.	Ljiljana Filipovic	Advisor/Coordinator, Institute for improvement of Education	Serbia
20	Mr.	Banovic Gojko	Head of Department, Institute for improvement of Education	Serbia
EU Danube Region Strategy , Priority Area 9 “To Invest in People and Skills” Strategy, Working Group 4 Support lifelong learning and expand learning mobility (EUSDR PA9 WG4)				
21	Ms.	Kalin Minev	VET Expert, Human Resources Development Agency	Bulgaria
22	Ms	Christina Kasparyan	Projects Manager Business Support Center for SMEs - Ruse	Bulgaria
23	Ms.	Brigitte Hertlein Puchta	EUSDR strategic coordinator, State Academy for In-Service Training and Human Resources Development at Schools Esslingen (Baden-Württemberg)	Germany
24	Mr.	Karol Jakubik	VET expert, VET Department of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport	Slovakia



1. Opening and Welcome

Ms. Dana Carmen Stroie welcomed the participants at the meeting and apologised for the absence of Ms. Zoica Elena Vlăduț, Deputy Director of the National Centre for TVET Development in Romania, who was on a mission abroad. She also introduced the members of the Romanian team present in the meeting.

Ms. Gabriela Liliana Ciobanu greeted the participants and opened the discussions.

2. Tour de table

All participants have presented themselves and the organization they represent in ERISSE VET CoK / EUSDR PA9 WG4. A total of 24 participants, representing organizations related to VET and institutions took part in the meeting (ref: List of participants).

3. Topics on the agenda

Ms. Dana Carmen Stroie presented the programme of the meeting, which was approved by the participants.

The meeting was structured in two working sessions:

- First working session - presentations made by speakers,
- Last session - open discussion for innovative actions/topics within the future cooperation action/project .

3.1. First working session: 8.30-10.00

Ms. Dana Carmen Stroie invited the speakers to make the short presentations included in the programme:

- Ms. Dana Carmen Stroie - presented briefly the ERISSE work programme and the creation of the ERISSE VET Cluster of knowledge, mentioning the main outcome of its 2011 – 2012 activity: *the Compendium on good practices in making VET more attractive*. She also presented the framework of the EU Strategy for Danube Development Region and the purpose of the WG4, organized within EUSDR Priority Area 9 “*Invest in people and skills*”.
- Ms. Elizabeth Watters - presented the European Training Foundation and examples of projects implemented as inspiration for further innovative cooperation between the ERISSE cluster of knowledge on VET and the WG 4 of EUSDR.
- Ms. Brigitte Hertlein Puchta - made a presentation of a cooperation project on school networking between Germany and France as inspiration for further innovative cooperation between the ERISSE cluster of knowledge on VET and the WG 4 of EUSDR.



- Ms. Elena Beatrice Cerkez - made a short presentation of the outcome of the ERISSEE cluster of Knowledge on VET activity for the period 2011 - 2012: the compendium on good practices.

The participants were invited to comment on the compendium and experience of working together.

The ERISSEE director, Ms. Jasminka Čekić Marković, recommended that all participants make a final revision on the technical part of the compendium: contact data and contributors, each participant for his/her corresponding part. The minor changes should be sent to the National Centre of TVET Development by the end of June, for final approval.

3.2 Last working session: 10.30 - 12.00

The participants were invited to give their input regarding their potential contribution in the framework of the future cooperation of the two working groups.

The overall objective: support the regional cooperation in VET based on the specific needs of both VET systems and providers in view of mutual learning, regional exchange of experience and good practice and for nurturing the national VET reforms
was agreed by the participants.

The ERISSEE CoK and the EUSDR PA9 WG4 intend to base their activities on the institutional network of VET Centres in the region.

The participants agreed that the specific objectives will refer to:

- knowledge transfer on the national developments on promoting VET excellence
- developing policy learning practices and strengthening the exchange of information and good practice
- supporting intra-country and inter-country co-operation on VET

on the specific VET thematic areas / topics agreed by the participants.

The participants agreed to decide on the Joint ERISSEE CoK and the EUSDR PA9 WG4 specific objectives and key outputs following a consultation process (see below point 4. Planning of tasks and deadlines of this Minute).

3.3 Discussions & Thematic Topics

Based on the presentations including the information above, the participants identified key areas of interest to develop as follows:



Country	Proposal/ area of interest
Albania	Formal/non-formal education Validation and recognition of prior learning Adjusting initial education to better answer the labour market needs Internship development
Bulgaria Cok	Mechanisms to strengthen employers participation in VET Necessary steps to be made in order to adopt the dual system in other context and specific adjustment measures Quality culture at VET providers level
Bulgaria – EUSDR WG4	Methodology and innovative teaching techniques Curricula relevancy
Croatia	Work-based learning (WBL) Raising VET attractiveness
ERISEE	VET reforms impact and measurable outcomes Connection between key competencies and VET competencies Inclusiveness in VET Teacher training - a potential combination with Montenegro's Cluster of Knowledge on Teacher Training
ETF	Creativity and entrepreneurship Development of key competencies Analysis of the weak links of the Work-based learning in member countries
Germany – EUSDR WG4	Networking with schools Mobility and internships Cooperation among schools
KulturKontak Austria	Work-based learning to raise VET attractiveness
Macedonia	Overview of the quality of VET systems
Montenegro	School-business partnership
Republic of Moldova	The way to create and strengthen the school-company link/partnership The use of dual system elements in other contexts - methods/methodology/guidelines/solutions to overcome potential milestones Methods to stimulate the economic agent to invest in school apprenticeship Inclusive education in VET
Romania	Work-based learning Networking with schools Cooperation among schools
Serbia	Attractiveness of VET



4. Planning of tasks and deadlines

1. **Minute of the kick-off meeting:**
 - the NCTVETD Romania will send the draft minute to all participants by 21st of June 2013
 - participants are kindly asked to send their comments by 28th of June 2013
 - - final version will be made by NCTVETD and sent to all participants by 2nd of July 2013
2. **Final decision on the specific objectives and key outputs of the cooperation between the Joint ERISSE cluster of knowledge on VET and the WG 4 of EUSDR:**
 - the NCTVETD Romania will send a draft proposal to all participants by 5th of July 2013
 - participants are kindly asked to send their comments by 15th of July 2013
 - - final decision on the outputs will be made by NCTVETD, according to the suggestions, and sent to all participants by 18nd of July 2013
3. **Next working meeting** - end of November/beginning of December 2013 in Austria (KulturKontakt headquarters) - proposal to be analysed and decided at a later date

Minute drafted and submitted by:

Elena Radulescu and Dana Stroie

NCTVETD
Romania