

REPORT

of the 6th Meeting of the South East Europe Regional VET Network (SEEVET-Net)

8-9 July, 2013
Belgrade, Serbia

The Education Reform Initiative of South East Europe (ERI SEE) has supported the development and regional networking of the national VET institutions since 2008¹. In 2011, the South East Europe Regional Vocational Education and Training Network – SEEVET-Net was established through signing of the Cooperation Agreement² between VET institutions from Albania, Bulgaria, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro and Serbia. VET institutions from Bosnia and Herzegovina and Romania have also joined the SEEVET-Net in 2012 by way of protocol. The leading idea behind the network is to share information about good practices, to agree on coherent ways of action regarding the arrangements of exchange co-operation and to share experience on strategic VET issues. The overall SEEVET – Net objective is to support implementation of policies in the VET sector contributing to human capital development in a lifelong learning perspective, through policy learning in the context of the objectives related to the EU accession and the “Education and Training 2020” and follow-ups.

The 6th Meeting of the SEEVET-Net was organized in July 2013 in Belgrade, Serbia by the Centre for Education Policy/ERI SEE Interim Secretariat with support of the Institute for Improvement of Education/Center for Vocational and Adult Education of the Republic of Serbia.

The meeting was organised as a two day event. The first day was dedicated to the SEEVET-Net annual meeting and enhancement of institutional cooperation through discussion on the future regional priorities while the second day was organized as the workshop on validation of prior learning as the theme identified by the SEEVET-Net members in 2012.

¹ 1st meeting of SEE VET Institutions, September 2008, Albania; Conference on Implementation strategies for NQF's in SEE, December 2008, Turkey; 2nd meeting of SEE VET Institutions, December 2009, Bosnia and Herzegovina; 3rd meeting of SEE VET Institutions and peer learning visit, October 2010, the Netherlands; 4th meeting of SEE VET Institutions, July 2011, Moldova; 5th meeting of the SEEVET-Net, June 2012, Montenegro

²http://www.erisee.org/sites/default/files/SEEVET-Net_Cooperation%20Agreement_Chisinau,%20July%202011%20-%20binder.pdf

The event brought together the representatives of the national VET institutions from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo*, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Romania, and Serbia as well as the representatives of the European Training Foundation (ETF), the National Tempus office in Serbia, and the Centre for Education Policy (CEP) as the ERI SEE Interim Secretariat. Apart from Bulgaria and Croatia, all other SEEVET-Net members from were present at the meeting.

The Agenda of the meeting is provided in the Annex 1 and the list of participants is provided in Annex 2 of this Report.

Day I

After the welcome speeches of Ms. Gordana Mitrović, Head of the Center for Vocational and Adult Education of the Republic of Serbia and Mr. Zekjir Zekjiri, Chair of the SEEVET-Net, Ms. Jasminka Čekić Marković, Director of CEP, gave a brief overview of the [key ERI SEE and SEEVET-Net activities and achievements in 2012](#) and presented the [ERI SEE Work Programme for 2013](#), adopted by the ERI SEE Governing Board in March 2013. Speaking about future regional priorities and activities which are going to take place, Ms. Čekić Marković stressed the importance of the activities regarding to development of the South East Europe 2020 Strategy as a regional response to Europe 2020. It was underlined that Regional Cooperation Council is responsible for the coordination and preparation of the SEE 2020 Strategy with the SEE governments while the ERI SEE has been appointed as the coordinator of the dimension D. Education and Competences of the pillar II. Smart growth. She also briefly presented the adopted targets of the Smart Growth pillar of the SEE 2020 Strategy, together with educational regional priorities, measures and actions, and invited SEEVET-Net members to contribute to the development of the education part of the Strategy through the ERI SEE Governing Board members from their countries. At the end, Ms. Čekić Marković informed the participants about the status of the process of the establishment of the ERI SEE Secretariat in the Republic of Serbia.

Upon determining the countries represented at the meeting, the election procedure for the new Chair of SEEVET-Net for one-year mandate (2013-2014) was announced. Then, the countries were asked to nominate a person to be in charge for chairing SEEVET-Net in the following time period. Montenegro nominated Ms. Gordana Mitrović, Head of the Center for Vocational and Adult Education of the Republic of Serbia, and their suggestion was supported by all other countries. After the voting, Ms. Gordana Mitrović was elected by the present SEEVET-Net members and she assumed the chairmanship as of that moment.

The next part of the day was dedicated to the presentation of activities within Joint TFBHC and ERI SEE Cluster of knowledge: Modernizing VET system – improving performance, quality and attractiveness of VET, as activities most connected with SEEVET-Net activities. Decision to present these activities was based on idea to have a clear picture of all the activities in order to avoid duplication and to achieve synergy with SEEVET-Net activities. [Presentation](#) was given by Ms. Dana Stroie from the National Centre for TVET Development of Romania as the institution in charge of

* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence

leading the cluster. Ms. Stroie gave a detailed overview of the *Compendium of Good Practices in Improving performance, quality and attractiveness of VET* as the Cluster output, and presented main contributors to the development of the Compendium, methodology used, as well as the Compendium structure and chapters. Ms. Stroie said that the Compendium will be available at the ERI SEE web page by the end of July.

At the end of the first day, the SEEVET-Net members had the opportunity to discuss on the topics to be included in the Work Programme for 2014 and to propose the future activities. The SEEVET-Net members identified the following topics to be tackled within the Work Programme for 2014:

- Experience in implementation of the European Credit system for Vocational Education and Training (ECVET)
- Development of post-secondary non-tertiary education
- Development of school culture and school leadership
- Further work on VET graduate tracer studies as the instrument of evidence based policy making
- Introduction in models of Quality Assurance systems in VET and presentations of good practice examples
- Improvement of work-based learning of students in VET
- Licensing of VET teachers

Based upon the inputs and discussion, and having in mind overall ERI SEE budget, CEP will prepare the SEEVET-Net Work Programme for 2014 and send for comments and suggestions as well as online voting.

Day II

The second day was organized as the workshop on validation of prior (including informal and non-formal) learning in VET. The workshop facilitator was Ms. Aušra Fokienė (PhD), expert in VPL methodology, from Vytautas Magnus University (Kaunas, Lithuania).

Bearing in mind that all the countries from the region are at different level of introducing system of VPL in VET, the participants were introduced in the topic with the key terms, purpose and target groups in VPL. Afterwards, the participants had the opportunity to hear about VPL methodological issues and main parameters: principles, the specificity of assessment in VPL, VPL structure and main actors. At the end, the VPL models and good practice examples were presented.

During the workshop to the participants half empty "handouts" were delivered (containing just the headings of the main parameters of VPL systems) and participants were asked to take some short notes under those headings, including what is new in what they heard, what are their practices regarding this concrete issue, what would they like to discuss deeper and so on which made this workshop more interactive. Another purpose of this method was that after the first part of the

workshop all the participants had collection of their own thoughts and ideas which were, in the second part, put in the structure of modeling the VPL.

In the second part of the workshop the participants were divided into the groups by country and had the opportunity to develop the VPL models most appropriate and applicable in their national contexts. The teamwork was followed by each country presentation.

The presentation of Ms. Aušra Fokienė is available at the [ERI SEE website](#).

The participants expressed their thanks to the organizers for delivering this kind of workshop.

6th Meeting of the South East Europe Regional VET Network (SEEVET-Net)

8-9 July, 2013

Belgrade, Serbia

Venue: Hotel Moskva, Conference Room "Terazije"

20:00 Dinner for the participants arriving on Sunday, 7 July, 2013

Day I

Monday, 8 July, 2013

13:00 - 14:00 Lunch

14:00 - 14:30 Meeting opening and welcomes by:

- Gordana Mitrović, Head of the Center for Vocational and Adult Education of the Republic of Serbia
- Zekjir Zekjiri, Chair of the SEEVET-Net

14:30 - 14:45 Presentation of SEEVET-Net achievements in 2012/2013 and remaining activities in 2013

- Jasminka Čekić Marković, Director, Centre for Education Policy/ERI SEE Interim Secretariat

14:45 - 15:00 Election of a new Chair of the SEEVET-Net (one year mandate)

15:00 - 15:15 Joint TFBHC and ERI SEE Cluster of knowledge: Modernizing VET system – improving performance, quality and attractiveness of VET
Update on activities and plans for 2013
Dana Stroie, Head of training programmes and quality assurance, National Centre for TVET Development, Romania

15:15 - 15:30 Coffee break

15:30 - 16:15 SEEVET-Net Work Programme for 2014
Discussion on the topics to be included in the Work Programme for 2014
Proposition on future cooperation and activities

20:00 Official Dinner

Day II

Tuesday, 9 July, 2013

10:00 - 17:00 Workshop on validation of non-formal and informal learning: experience, processes and perspectives
Facilitator: Aušra Fokienė, expert in VPL methodology, Vytautas Magnus University, Kaunas, Lithuania

Morning session

Lecture and discussions:
VPL – (new) service in VET?
Contextual discussion
Main methodological issues

Coffee break

Lecture and discussions:
Building VPL system at a national, institutional levels
Main parameters of the VPL in VET: principles, the specificity of assessment in VPL;
VPL structure and main actors
Examples of VPL practice

Lunch break

Afternoon session

Modelling the VPL methodology basing on national context: discussions and teamwork

Coffee break

Modelling the VPL methodology basing on national context: teamwork and concluding remarks

20:00

Dinner for the participants leaving on Wednesday, 10 July, 2013

List of participants

Name and Surname	Institution	Position	Country
Ilia Paluka	National VET Agency	Specialist	Albania
Marsela Robo	National VET and Qualification Agency	Expert for Curriculum Development and Teacher Training	Albania
Dragana Graonić	Agency for Pre-School, Primary and Secondary Education	Head of VET Department/Deputy Director	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Denis Fazlić	Agency for Pre-School, Primary and Secondary Education	Advisor	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Kaltrina Mulliqi	NQA	Expert for Quality Assurance	Kosovo*
Ryve Prekorogja	Ministry of Education, Science and Technology	Official for VET	Kosovo*
Zekjir Zekjiri	Vocational Education and Training Center	Director/Chair of the SEEVET-Net	Macedonia
Zoran Jovchevski	Vocational Education and Training Center	Advisor	Macedonia
Nada Stoimenova	Ministry of Education and Science	Adviser for primary and secondary education	Macedonia
Veaceslav Nicić	Ministry of Education	Consultant Postgraduate studies and LLL Department	Moldova
Virginia Rusnac	Institute of Education Sciences	Coordinator/Centre of Development Vocational Education	Moldova
Duško Rajković	Centre for Vocational Education	Director	Montenegro
Nada Šekarić	Centre for Vocational	Legal Affairs Officer	Montenegro

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	Education		
Ivana Mihailović	Centre for Vocational Education	Adviser for International Cooperation	Montenegro
Irena Janković	Centre for Vocational Education	Finance Officer	Montenegro
Dana Stroie	National Centre for TVET Development	Head of training programmes and quality assurance	Romania
Gordana Mitrović	Institute for Improvement of Education	Head of the Center for Vocational and Adult Education	Serbia
Jelena Jakovljević	Institute for Improvement of Education	Advisor for Qualification Development	Serbia
Mirjana Radeka	Institute for Improvement of Education	Advisor for VET Curricula and Text books	Serbia
Ljiljana Filipović	Institute for Improvement of Education	Advisor for VET Curricula and Text books	Serbia
Zoran Spasić	Institute for Improvement of Education	Advisor for VET Curricula and Text books	Serbia
Melanija Ilić	Institute for Improvement of Education	Advisor for VET Curricula and Text books	Serbia
Danica Sofrenović	Institute for Improvement of Education	Advisor for VET Curricula and Text books	Serbia
Gojko Banović	Institute for Improvement of Education	Head of the Sector for Curricula and Text books	Serbia
Tatjana Simić	Institute for Improvement of Education	Practitioner in the Sector for Qualification Development	Serbia
Ivana Radmilović	Institute for Improvement of Education	Practitioner in the Sector for Qualification Development	Serbia
Vesna Mrđa	Institute for Improvement of Education	Advisor for Qualification Development	Serbia
Miroslav Mareš	Institute for Improvement of Education	Advisor for Qualification Development	Serbia

Aušra Fokienė	Vytautas Magnus University	Expert in VPL methodology	Lithuania
Anna Kahlson	European Training Foundation	Specialist in Qualifications System Development	Italy
Nina Stojanović	Foundation Tempus - National Tempus office, Serbia	Project officer	Serbia
Sofija Dukić	Foundation Tempus - National Tempus office, Serbia	Deputy Director	Serbia
Jasminka Čekić-Marković	Centre for Education Policy (ERI SEE Interim Agency)	Director	Serbia
Nevena Adžić	Centre for Education Policy (ERI SEE Interim Agency)	Programme Coordinator	Serbia
Milica Grahovac	Centre for Education Policy (ERI SEE Interim Agency)	Programme Coordinator	Serbia
Julija Jeremić	Centre for Education Policy (ERI SEE Interim Agency)	Administrative coordinator	Serbia