



# ***Platforms for Vocational Excellence: Co-creating skills ecosystems for regional development and innovation***

***Workshop 'Building Regional Skills Ecosystems'  
European Week of Regions and Cities 2019***

***Brussels, 10 October 2019***

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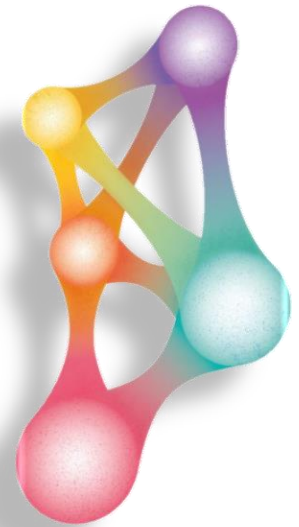
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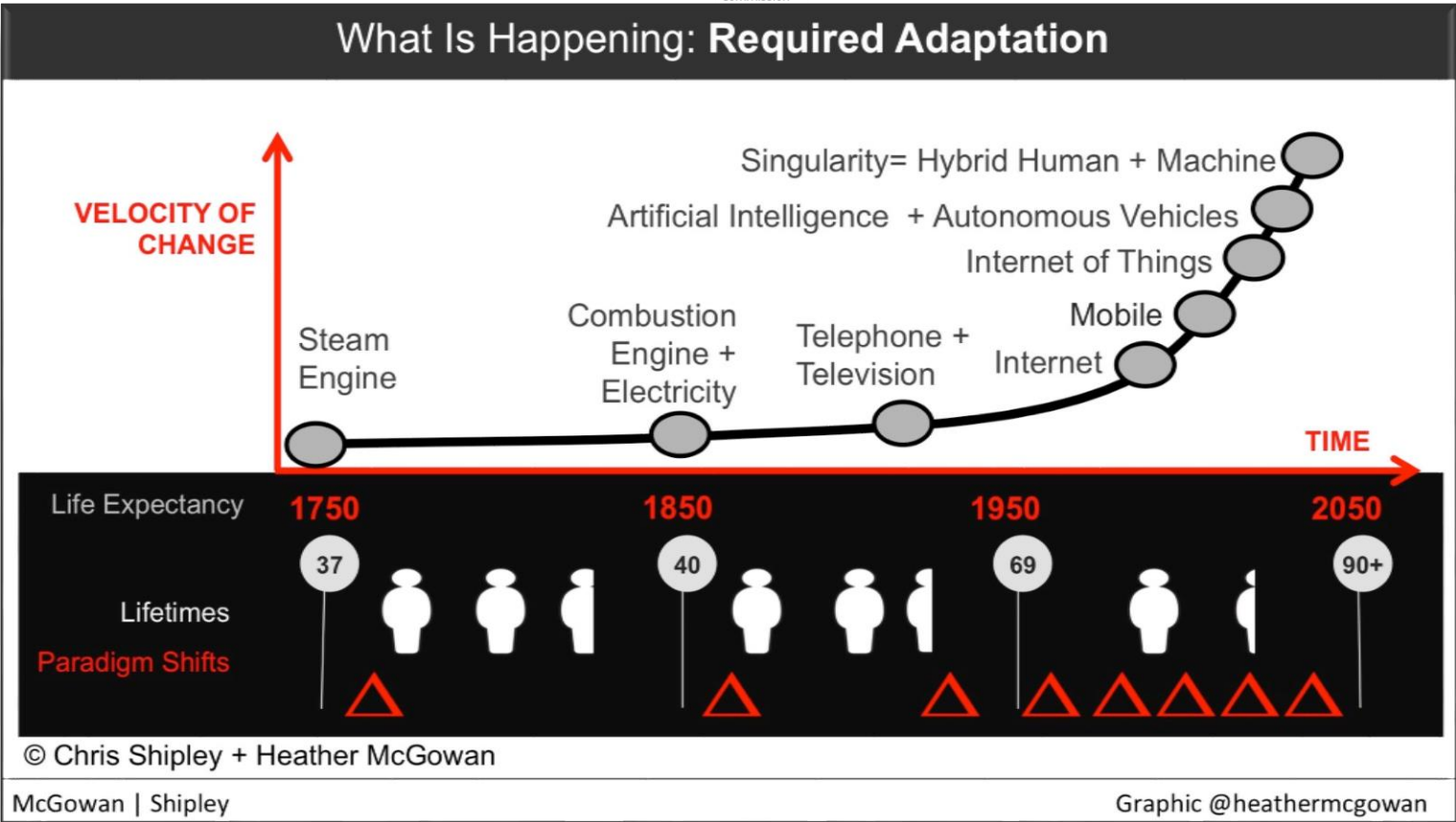
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**DISCOVER  
YOUR TALENT!**

European Vocational Skills Week  
14 to 18 October 2019

Helsinki, Finland

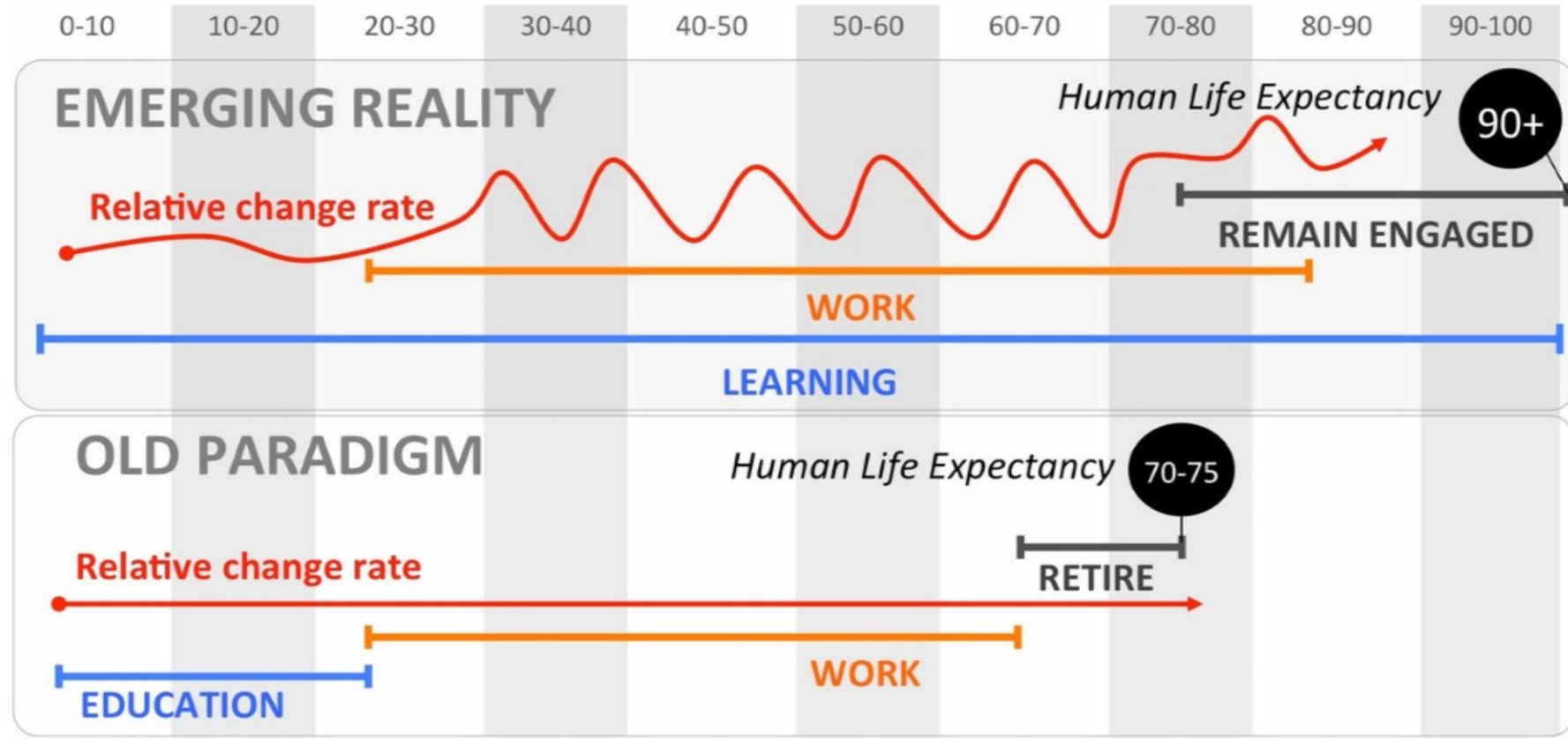


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# Moving from being "educated", to lifelong learning "engagement"



@Heather McGowan



# Centres of Vocational Excellence

## Fostering local "Skills ecosystems"



### **Bringing together:**

- *Policy makers*
- *Companies*
- *Chambers*
- *VET institutions*
- *Universities of applied science*
- *Research centres*
- *Employment services/agencies*
- *Regional development agencies*
- *Professional or sector associations*



# "Centres of Vocational Excellence" *In a nutshell*



## The Goal

### VET Excellence, innovation and attractiveness

- Empowering people with skills for fulfilling careers that meet the needs of an innovative and competitive economy
- VET open to the world, and co-creating local innovation eco-systems

## How to get there

### Transnational collaborative Platforms of CoVE

Sharing a common interest in:

- **Sectoral** approach (e.g. *aeronautics, e-mobility, green technologies, social care*)
- **Thematic** societal challenges (e.g. *Upskilling, SDG, Migration, Digitalisation, AI*)

## EU funding

### Erasmus 2021-2027 driving the initiative,

*Also supported through ESF+, ERDF, InvestEU, Horizon Europe...*

## The partners

**VET providers**, Tertiary education, Research institutions, science parks, Companies, Chambers, Social partners, Development agencies, Sector Skills Councils, Public employment services, etc.

# Typical activities of CoVE's

## Pro-active partner in local development



**Regional development,  
Smart Specialisation,  
Knowledge triangle**



Providing both Initial and continuing VET at all EQF Levels



Innovative curricula, & Teaching & training methodologies (PBL, Interdisciplinary...)



Higher VET, and Flexible pathways with Schools and Universities

Quality assurance feedback loop, learner tracking



Validation and Guidance



**Vocational Excellence**

Governance (social partners, national and local governments VET providers, development agencies...)



Cost-sharing, sustainable funding, and effective use of EU funding



Technology diffusion and Innovation Hubs



Incubators supporting entrepreneurial initiatives



Partnerships for: Skills anticipation, Apprenticeships, T&T exchanges...



# Erasmus+ projects to pilot the CoVE initiative



## 2018 – Preparing the ground

- Erasmus+ **KA3** call for Joint VET qualifications
- **ET2020 WG** 2018-2020 focused on innovation and digitalisation in VET

## 2019 – The first (limited) pilot projects

- **Mapping** of existing approaches to **Vocational Excellence**
- Erasmus+ **KA2 Sector Skills Alliances** call for pilot projects on CoVE

## 2020 – Refining the concept and piloting the initiative

- Erasmus+ KA3 call for **Platforms of Vocational Excellence** (*full pilot*)

## 2021-2027 - The full implementation of the initiative

- **Erasmus**, and ERDF, ESF, InvestEU, Horizon Europe ➡ *supporting CoVE*

# Centres of Vocational Excellence

## Overview of 2019 selected projects



<b>Title</b>	<b>Talentjourney</b>	<b>Excellent Advanced Manufacturing 4.0</b>	<b>Digital Innovation Hub for Cloud Based Services</b>	<b>Open Design School</b>	<b>Platform of Vocational Excellence Water</b>
<b>Sector</b>	IoT in Smart manufacturing	Advanced Manufacturing	Cloud computing	Cultural and creative industries	Water sector
<b>Countries</b>	5	4	5	9	6
<b>EU Grant</b>	953.550 €	799.332 €	999.882 €	874.093 €	998.022 €
<b>Coordinator</b>	Solski (SI)	Tknika (ES)	Helsinki Business college (FI)	Basilicata Foundation (IT)	Firesland college (NL)
<b>Partners</b>	13	8	10	9	11

5 projects selected. Duration 2 years. Total grants: €4.624.879 8





### **KA3 Specific call** (*open to partners from outside E+ programme countries*) *Support for "Platforms of Centres of Vocational Excellence (CoVE)"*

- Support for **5 Pilot projects** running for 4 years, based on innovative cooperation methods, for the **establishment of Platforms of CoVE's**
- **Strategic approach to development of skills-ecosystems at local level** and in line with local growth and **innovation strategies**
- At least **4 programme countries**, at least **8 full partners**, with at least **1 company** or industry representative, and **1 VET provider** in each country
- Can be focused on any **EQF level** but must also include **levels 3, 4 or 5**
- Budget **€20.000.000**, with maximum EU grant **€4,000,000** per project
- Publication in October 2019. Deadline for applications February 2020.<sup>9</sup>

# Follow your passion

Vocational Education  
and Training is a first choice.

