



EUROPEAN WEEK OF  
REGIONS & CITIES

2003 - 2022

# Supporting young people through inclusive and quality VET

New Challenges for  
Europe's Cohesion

Irene Psifidou and Ralph Hippe, Cedefop experts  
Dept. for VET and Skills



#EURegionsWeek





EUROPEAN WEEK OF  
REGIONS & CITIES

2003 - 2022

EUROPEAN YEAR OF YOUTH

by IRENE PSIFIDOU

## New Challenges for Europe's Cohesion



© Cedefop, 2022/Sakis Gloumpas

## Making VET fit for young people's needs

“ Cedefop's work is in perfect alignment with the four objectives of the European Year of Youth, to support and engage young people at many levels

The EU has dedicated 2022 to young people to underline their important role in reshaping Europe, aiming for a greener, more peaceful, inclusive and digital future. It is time to move forward to a post-pandemic perspective and focus on young people's priorities, including those with fewer opportunities, shaping policy-making to match their needs and organising youth-focused activities across the EU.

Young people's wellbeing, personal and professional development, and engagement in society, must be considered and addressed. Numerous youth programmes and initiatives have already been, or will be, launched to involve young Europeans: from the well-known Erasmus+ exchange



**Objective 1:** Support the generation that lost out the most during the pandemic, offering new perspectives and opportunities while highlighting the potential of the green and digital transitions.

Cedefop's VET for youth team leads research and supports evidence-based policy-making on VET teacher and trainer professional development. It is essential that teachers and trainers have opportunities to develop and keep their technical, pedagogical and transversal skills (e.g. digital, intercultural communication) to the highest standards, especially as the pandemic has been challenging for most learning contexts, including VET, in both school and work-based settings. Cedefop's ReferNet, a network of institutions which provides information on national VET systems and policies in the EU Member States, Iceland and Norway, has been preparing thematic articles on Teachers and trainers in a changing world. These will report on national policies aiming to making VET more inclusive and beneficial for learners. Also under way is Cedefop's feasibility study for a future pan-European opinion survey of principals, teachers, trainers and learners aiming to improve the quality of initial VET. This new survey will give voice to all key actors in initial VET, especially to learners.

**Objective 2:** Encourage all young people, especially those vulnerable and with fewer opportunities, to acquire relevant knowledge and competences to become active and engaged citizens.

In 2017, Cedefop developed the VET toolkit for tackling early leaving to encourage lifelong learning and social inclusion by helping learners at risk remain in education and training, and early leavers to reintegrate. In the same year, the European community of ambassadors for tackling early leaving from VET was established, with representatives from across Europe. Five years later, the success of this work inspired the creation of the VET toolkit for empowering NEETs (young people not in employment, education or training) to support all socially excluded young people. European policy-makers and practitioners may use Cedefop's interactive tools to monitor and empower their policies for inclusive VET systems, also supporting the integration of refugees, minorities and disadvantaged groups. Tailored intervention approaches designed by Cedefop may support learners with health issues or caring responsibilities in finding apprenticeship placements in inclusive work-based learning environments, or help learners with a migrant background overcome different

**Objective 3:** Promote opportunities provided by EU policies to support young people's personal, social and professional development.

It is precisely Cedefop's intent to strengthen the link between education, training and the labour market in Europe. Our research aims to showcase good practices and key characteristics that make a policy or practice successful. This allows policy-makers and VET practitioners to learn from experience and design effective policies for learners. Cedefop's approach celebrates the diversity of VET systems in Europe and still cares for common European standards for quality, promoting mobility of learners and workers across the continent.

**Objective 4:** Draw inspiration from the vision, insights and actions of young people and encourage a youth perspective in policy-making at all levels.

Another aim of Cedefop's toolkits is to offer guidance and promote reflection and dialogue among policy-makers and practitioners on current strategies for tackling early leaving and promoting inclusion. Our reflection tools support decision-making through the development of targeted action plans. Successful learning practices and learners' perspectives are highlighted during Cedefop's policy learning forums to understand their needs, difficulties and aspirations, and seek efficient ways to address them.

Cedefop's work and aspiration is underpinned by the European youth goals, such as the right to quality learning, moving young people from rural environments forward, creating space and participation for all, and accessing quality employment. In this context, we continue to foster sustainable and proactive ways to empower young citizens and engage them in Europe's society through valuable VET programmes.



Cedefop theme: VET for youth - Teachers and trainers



Cedefop's VET toolkit for tackling early leaving



Cedefop's VET toolkit for empowering NEETs

#EURegionsWeek



EUROPEAN WEEK OF  
REGIONS & CITIES

2003 - 2022

## Working for the younger generation

New Challenges for  
Europe's Cohesion



#EURegionsWeek





EUROPEAN WEEK OF  
REGIONS & CITIES

2023 - 2024

New Challenges for  
Europe's Cohesion

## VET4YOUTH TEAM

Promoting inclusive excellence for young people

### INCLUSION

- Tackle early leaving from VET
  - Support learners at risk and early leavers
- Empower young NEETs through VET
- Promote inclusion and gender equality in VET

Digital inclusion  
&  
Professional  
development of  
VET teachers and  
trainers

### EXCELLENCE AND DIGITALISATION

- Improve digital skills in VET
- Promote innovative teaching and learning methods






EUROPEAN WEEK OF  
REGIONS & CITIES

2003 - 2022

New Challenges for  
Europe's Cohesion

## Youth first! Policies and tools for young Europeans



Monitor national developments and provide comparative **evidence and data**

Organise **conferences** and **policy learning fora** on the professional development of teachers and trainers in VET



Develop tools and tips for supporting VET teachers and trainers to design, implement and evaluate **effective teaching and training practices**



Support VET practitioners to promote inclusion


- VET toolkit for tackling early leaving
- VET toolkit for empowering NEETs



Provide **guiding principles** for improving teachers' and trainers' professional development



**Collaborate with EU** and national key stakeholders and social partners



Carry out a **European survey** of school principals, teachers, in-company trainers and learners in initial VET

#EURegionsWeek





EUROPEAN WEEK OF  
REGIONS & CITIES

2003 - 2022

New Challenges for  
Europe's Cohesion

[www.cedefop.europa.eu/TEL-toolkit](http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/TEL-toolkit)



## VET TOOLKIT FOR TACKLING EARLY LEAVING

### WHAT IS IT FOR?

A one stop shop platform with rich resources aiming to support the reintegration of early leavers and to empower learners at risk to succeed and qualify.



### WHO IS IT FOR?

- 1 **VET practitioners** and **policy-makers** to help them design, implement and evaluate their measures for tackling early leaving and support them to effectively address early leaving from VET.
- 2 People working in ministries, VET schools, companies, guidance centres, public employment services, social services, or youth organisations.

### WHAT IT INCLUDES?

PROFILES OF  
LEARNERS AT  
RISK



INTERACTIVE  
TOOLS ON  
TACKLING ELET



REFLECTION AND  
EVALUATION  
TOOLS



INTERVENTION  
APPROACHES



SUCCESSFUL  
VET  
PRACTICES



PUBLICATIONS,  
STATISTICS  
AND DATA



#EURegionsWeek





EUROPEAN WEEK OF  
REGIONS & CITIES

2003 - 2022

New Challenges for  
Europe's Cohesion

<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/tools/neets>



## VET TOOLKIT FOR EMPOWERING NEETS

### WHAT IS IT FOR?

A one stop shop platform with rich resources aiming to support the reintegration of NEETs in education or training and in the labour market.



### WHO IS IT FOR?

- 1 **VET practitioners** and **policy-makers** to help them design, implement and evaluate their measures for supporting and empowering NEETs .
- 2 People working in a ministry, VET school, company, guidance centre, public employment service, social service, or youth organisation, and providers of support to young NEETs.

### WHAT IT INCLUDES?

PROFILES OF  
YOUNG PEOPLE  
AT RISK



INTERACTIVE TOOLS  
ON EMPOWERING  
NEETS



EVALUATION  
TOOLS



INTERVENTION  
APPROACHES



SUCCESSFUL  
VET  
PRACTICES



PUBLICATIONS,  
STATISTICS  
AND DATA



#EURegionsWeek





EUROPEAN WEEK OF  
REGIONS & CITIES

2023 - 2024

# Empowering teachers and trainers to support learners in the twin transition

## Highlights on national and regional actions for learners

**CEDEFOP REFERNET SLOVENIA**

TEACHERS AND TRAINERS IN A CHANGING WORLD  
Building up competences for inclusive, green and digitalised vocational education and training

SLOVENIA

**CEDEFOP REFERNET SPAIN**

TEACHERS AND TRAINERS IN A CHANGING WORLD  
Building up competences for inclusive, green and digitalised vocational education and training

SPAIN

**CEDEFOP REFERNET SWEDEN**

TEACHERS AND TRAINERS IN A CHANGING WORLD  
Building up competences for inclusive, green and digitalised vocational education and training

SWEDEN

CEDEFOP REFERNET THEMATIC PERSPECTIVES

**CEDEFOP SYNTHESIS REPORT 2022**

**TEACHERS AND TRAINERS IN A CHANGING WORLD:  
BUILDING UP COMPETENCES FOR INCLUSIVE,  
GREEN AND DIGITALISED VOCATIONAL  
EDUCATION AND TRAINING (VET)**

VET4YOUTH TEAM



CEDEFOP | European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training

## New Challenges for Europe's Cohesion

**CEDEFOP REFERNET POLAND**

TEACHERS AND TRAINERS IN A CHANGING WORLD  
Building up competences for inclusive, green and digitalised vocational education and training

POLAND

**CEDEFOP REFERNET NETHERLANDS**

TEACHERS AND TRAINERS IN A CHANGING WORLD  
Building up competences for inclusive, green and digitalised vocational education and training

NETHERLANDS

**CEDEFOP REFERNET ROMANIA**

TEACHERS AND TRAINERS IN A CHANGING WORLD  
Building up competences for inclusive, green and digitalised vocational education and training

ROMANIA

CEDEFOP REFERNET THEMATIC PERSPECTIVES

#EURegionsWeek







EUROPEAN WEEK OF  
REGIONS & CITIES

2003 - 2022

HAUSAUFGABENHÄLFE  
LÉIERMATERIALIEN  
CHALLENGES  
WELL-BEING@HOME

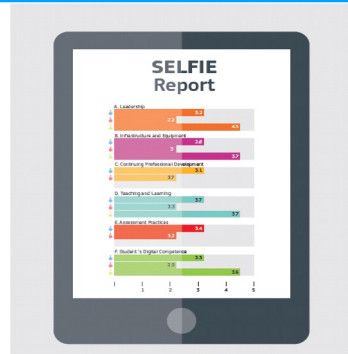


[schouldoheim.lu](https://schouldoheim.lu)

New Challenges for  
Europe's Cohesion

## Actions on digital skills

Action	Country
Schouldoheim.lu: offers pedagogical resources and online tools for learners, teachers, and parents	LU
SELFIE (developed by European Commission)	various



Raise your voice!



#EURegionsWeek





EUROPEAN WEEK OF  
REGIONS & CITIES

2003 - 2022

New Challenges for  
Europe's Cohesion

## Actions on green skills



Action	Country
Green skills curricula: promote the learner's ability to perform their professional activities in accordance with sustainable development.	LV
Educational package 'Friends of the climate': aimed at familiarising students with climate protection and activities for adaptation to climate change.	PL
Green VET for SDG: supporting individuals in acquiring and developing basic skills and key competences in greening, addressing sustainable investment, performance and efficiency	MT
VR-WAMA: aims to develop a training platform containing a game-based 3D virtual reality educational environment to assist VET students to learn better in the field of environmental engineering and waste management	SK

#EURegionsWeek

For more information: [Teachers and Trainers in a changing world](#)





EUROPEAN WEEK OF  
REGIONS & CITIES

2003 - 2022

 **CEDEFOP** European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training

**Green  
Observatory**



**New Challenges for  
Europe's Cohesion**

## VET pathways to providing skills for smart green cities

OCCUPATION/JOB	IVET OR YOUNG PEOPLE	CVET for adults to stay in their current jobs	CVET to ensure adults transition to smart, green city jobs
Smart and green city management professionals		✓	
ICT professionals	✓	✓	
Urban space specialists	✓	✓	✓
Energy professionals		✓	
Transport and mobility specialists	✓	✓	✓
Environmental protection specialists	✓	✓	✓
Specialists to boost citizen engagement	✓	✓	✓
Construction and building specialists		✓	

**#EURegionsWeek**

For more information: [Cedefop Green Observatory](#)





EUROPEAN WEEK OF  
REGIONS & CITIES

2003 - 2022



VET toolkit for  
tackling early  
leaving



VET toolkit for  
empowering  
NEETs

**New Challenges for  
Europe's Cohesion**

# Thank you very much!

Check out our team's work:

**VET4YOUTH** TEAM



**CEDEFOP**

European Centre for the Development  
of Vocational Training

[www.cedefop.europa.eu](http://www.cedefop.europa.eu)

Follow us on social media



#Earlyleaving #VETtoolkit #VETTeachersTrainers

**#EURegionsWeek**

