





Participation and focus

- Currently about 50% of youngsters participate in VET. For economic and social reasons participation should increase to about 70%
- Investment in skills for middle and lower range jobs is at least as important as investment in high level skills.
- The agenda for Life Long Learning should be pursued on national and European level.

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Institutional change

- Institutions should move towards service institutions in a local and regional setting, delivering life long learning services.
- This would mean:
 - Greater regional autonomy and valid structures for regional cooperation.
 - Organisation of active counter forces on local and regional level (clients, ombudsman, stakeholders)
 - demand articulation
 - Learning organisations
 - Focused public accountability (public information and quality-methods)

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Competences and qualifications

- Effective, real and **valid competences** can only be developed at **regional or even local level**.
- Qualification structures on national and European levels are useful as **points of reference** for validating such competences and codify them in Europass documents.
- Basic skills are crucial. However they explain only half of the wage differences.
Employability needs a 'wider' form of human capital, defined as the characteristics that allow a person to build, manage and deploy his or her skills.

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Public Image and Brand

- **The public image of VET has to be improved.**
Conditions include:
 - Individualised pathways and links
 - Clarity of information
 - Visibility of investment in quality assurance
 - Consistency
 - Recognition.
- **A clearer brand and better European statistics are needed.**

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Branding of VET: Five Core Elements (Mary Dickie)

- VET gives you freedom - to manage your own investment in learning, your career path, the skills challenge - equipping you for the future
- VET reflects the real world - real world skills, changing work, career trends and economic developments
- VET leads to valuable, desirable and valued qualifications - diverse range, different levels
- VET is a first class option, the right choice at the right time
- VET leads to careers - not just jobs - helps you manage a range of career paths and seize opportunities

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Good public governance

- The **open method of coordination** is a promising way of learning good governance with **hybrid responsibilities** of the state and local, regional and global stakeholders.
- Conditions include:
 - *Knowledge alliances of professionals and stakeholders*
 - *Investment in diversity, variety and innovative practices (room for experimentation)*
 - *Organisation of active counter forces on local and regional level (clients, ombudsman, stakeholders) – demand articulation and learning organisations*
 - *Focused public accountability (public information and quality-methods)*
 - *Integrated, sober and selective inspection.*

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- On behalf of EfVET and BVE-Raad: thank you very much for your experience based actions and focus on the future of VET in Europe
- I wish you all a pleasant and fruitful workshop.



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