



VENHANS

SILVER EXPERT GROUP MANDATE

BOOSTING THE REPRESENTATIVENESS OF VET PROVIDERS



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

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Introduction

In the framework of the Action Plan on Capacity Building (WP3) of the VENHANS project, it was foreseen the establishment of a workgroup of senior VET experts - a *Silver Expert Group* (SEG). The group gathers former experts involved in the activities of the six EU Associations of VET and HE Providers, member organisations of the VET4EU2 platform, namely EVTA, EfVET, EUproVET, EVBB, EUCEN and EURASHE. Each of these members can appoint two experts, having a total of 12 members composing the SEG.

The SEG will function as a consultative body of the VET4EU2 platform, becoming its historic memory ensuring continuity and evolution in the strategic and political work of the platform, but also supporting its members by sharing knowledge and experience. In addition to this, the Silver Expert Group can support the process of informing new members or new staff members in the associations about the history and achievements of the platform, during conferences, workshops and other activities as part of the programme. Furthermore, the SEG will sustain VET4EU2 as a whole, based on the agenda for the platform. Support is not meant to be provided to the organisations taken singularly.

Recalling on the VENHANS project, the experts can contribute to the sustainability of several activities and achievements initiated by the project, with the aim to ensure continuity of the work delivered as well. This can be combined with follow-up projects, initiated by one or more of the associations in VET4EU2, and having amongst other themes a focus on the role of the platform and/or a number of the associations.

VISION, MISSION AND STRATEGY

VISION: The SEG supports the VET4EU2 platform, its constituent members and EU authorities by providing advice based on its members' long-lasting knowledge and expertise in the VET sector and other sectors that are related to VET, to enable continuous and flexible learning paths for all kinds of target groups in a national and international context.

MISSION: The SEG contributes and participates in discussions where the VET4EU2 platform is involved when it comes to contributing its expertise on current topics of interest related to the European policy on VET.

STRATEGY: The SEG acts as a forum for discussion ensuring continuity with the work done in the past and offering concrete inputs of the topics at stake, for instance in conferences, projects and other activities.

Activities

In practical terms, the Silver Expert Group can support VET4EU2 by providing advice if there are discussions related to a common strategy for VET policy as it has been pursued by the EU and other world organisations, such as OECD, ILO and UNESCO. This means that VET4EU2 can formulate every year a number of issues that are important for the work that can be done by this platform, being part of meetings with DG E and other organisations. They can be discussed with the SEG, based on the expertise that its members have. The results of these discussions of (a part of) the SEG with a delegation from VET4EU2, focused on specific topics and developments, can be used by the VET4EU2 platform. The SEG can also provide solicited and unsolicited advice to VET4EU2 on the

basis of the available expertise, in view of research that is being done into developments that are directly or indirectly important for the VET sector. The members of the SEG can also be involved in international projects on the basis of specific agreements and the themes that are used.

Based on this, the SEG can contribute every year to a small number of concrete and useable results on topics of interest of the VET4EU2 platform and of the European Commission, relating to the VET sector. For this there is a list with examples, to have an idea of what the SEG can focus on:

#	<u>AREAS FOR COOPERATION</u>	<u>EXAMPLES OF OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVES</u>
1	Sharing of knowledge, experience and best practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review articles for the magazine, project documents and draft Organising workshops during annual conferences of VET4EU2 members
2	Ensure continuity to the evolution of the platform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avoid repetition of initiatives Propose links of new initiatives to past experiences
3	Repository of history and achievements of the platform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participation to training or dissemination events Articles for the magazine Informing about past activities new members/staff members
4	Propose critical reflection on aspects related to VET	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> VET4EU2 policy contribution for VET after 2020 Identification of policy, objectives and initiative-related
TOPICS OF INTEREST (VET4EU2)		
Assessment of VET policies		
Assessment and classification of VET organisations		
Challenges of training and recognition in social and economic development		
Silver Economy, Active Ageing		
Digital learning		
Green skills and circular economy		
Industry strategy		
SMEs		
Pact for Skills		
Individual Learning Account		
Health and care sector skills		
Recognition of certifications		
Mobilities		

Group Composition (January 2023)

Expert	Areas of expertise
Gilberto Collinassi	He began his career in the private industry and was employed in ENAIP Friuli Venezia Giulia where he covered different roles: computer science teacher, training designer, principal of training center and eventually regional director R&D. Also appointed as Training Design Director in various consortia of training providers. On behalf of ENAIPNET and EVTA he was member of: EU Graduated Tracking experts group; CEDEFOP Community of VET Practitioners "SG1-TEL"; CEDEFOP Workgroup for Thematic Country Review on Apprenticeship; LifeLong Learning Platform Validation Task Force.
Yves Grange	European VET Advisor (AFPA, Paris France-EVTA Brussels) General Direction (Strategy direction) 2011/2019. Head management for several national and regional application schools and Vocational Training centers. Trainer for adults and expert manager in territorial policies.

Kent Andersen	Authored and coordinated twelve EC projects; Leonardo, eLearning, and Erasmus+ (2002-2021), one was awarded the European Silver Award for Innovation and Creativity in Lifelong Learning. Kent has evaluated for EACEA reports and assessed applications covering Minerva, Comenius, Leonardo, Grundtvig, eLearning, and transversal projects. He can offer practical advice on project life aspects from application, partnership issues through reporting.
Raimo Sivonen	He has 29 years of experience in VET and has worked in many VET-related fields. He worked in Kainuu Vocational college and the last 15 years he was the principal of the College up to his retirement.
Stylianos Mavromoustakos	He has long experience in project management, program design and implementation. He participated as a speaker in numerous conferences and forums for Vocational Education and Training, Quality Assurance and Learning Outcomes. In 2015-2017 appointed by DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion of the European Commission as a member of the expert group "Platform of European Associations of vocational education and training (VET) providers". From May 2017 to March 2020, he was a member of EQF Working group representing the Vocational Education and Training providers.
René van Schalkwijk	René was a board member of a Vet college in the Netherlands with 4 locations and over 1200 students He was co-founder, secretary-general and president of a European VET providers association. (Euprovet) He still gives advice to the board of Euprovet. He participated in and initiated EU projects and was involved in advising the EU commission on several VET issues. His fields of expertise are management and leadership, governance, quality assurance and educational policy.
Horst Dreimann	Horst Dreimann has a long experience in education in different contexts such as university, adult education, and civil society organizations. He started his work as language scientist, university lecturer, teacher, manager of TVET company, and manager of the international department of Internationaler Bund. His 30 years of project management skills and policy advisory work allowed him to develop into an expert asked for by both GIZ, German authorities and EU agencies. Before his retirement he held the position of EVBB Secretary General.
Jean Marie Filloque	He was a lecturer in computer science at the IUT of Brest and vice-rector of the University of Brest. He was director of university continuing education centres, president of the French national UCE network for 10 years and member of the CS of Eucen. His areas of expertise are quality assurance in HE, governance and education strategies, qualifications and certifications, recognition of prior learning.
Hans Daale	Hans Daale has spent his working life in education. Started as a teacher in secondary education, and ended as a dean of faculty in higher professional education. A great deal of expertise has been built up in all kinds of positions with regard to designing programs and courses and in international projects Since 2013, he is President of CHAIN5, the European Community of Practice for level 5 qualifications and on that basis he is a member of international networks. Areas of expertise: policy, quality assurance, project management, work-based learning.
Stefan Delplace	Stefan is an educationalist, with an interest in education's connection with civil society and the world of work. He was Secretary General of EURASHE from 2004-2014. In this capacity he was a co-author of the ESG for QA, and was on the Board of EQAR and of the Education Committee of the Council of Europe. In the area of VET, he has been an advocate of Level 5 of the EQF, and he sat on the advisory board of ETF's FRAME project for the Western Balkans. He is an Associate of the IAU-AIU (UNESCO), and is a member in various Advisory and Expert groups of the European Union and HE stakeholder organizations.
Battista Giuseppe Castagna	

Membership and duration of the mandate

Each of the associations in VET4EU2 can appoint two members for the SEG. The membership is valid for a period of three years, with an option for another three years. In the implementation of the SEG for the first time, the expertise that is brought in by each is examined as closely as possible, in order to search for a balance in the possibilities of being involved in all kinds of topics and developments.

The members of the first SEG are appointed by VET4EU2, i.e. all its associations agree to its composition – and to their representatives through their Board.

If there is a vacancy for the SEG, it will be filled by the association concerned. In consultation with the other members of the SEG, it is examined what expertise is needed to maintain that balance. The Board of that association formally appoints its new member of the SEG.

The SEG nominates two representatives within the group acting as a liaison (steering group) with the VET4EU2 platform. Those two representatives should be the expression of two different organizations. In addition, a member of the SEG acts as secretary.

Internal communication of the group and with VET4EU2

Any communication regarding the activities and the nature of the group will take place through the VET4EU2 hub. More specifically, a subgroup/channel is specifically created for the Silver Expert Group (<https://hub.vet4eu2.eu/groups/silver-experts-group/members/all-members/>). Each SEG member will create his profile on the hub to be able to be included in the channel. The access will be limited to the group's members.

The channel will be used as a repository for documents and background material as well as an interactive environment to discuss and organise operational activities.

In addition to this, VET4EU2 would appoint two persons responsible to liaise with the steering group of the SEG. This will be done to make communication between the two bodies more effective and sharper. The two representatives will be chosen according to the rotatory coordination system in place for the management of the VET4EU2 platform.

The members of the SEG will not require compensations for the hours of work contributed. The associations in VET4EU2 will try to allocate a budget to ensure the coverage of travel and accommodation costs for at least one physical meeting a year for their members of the SEG. This can also be combined with a meeting of the VET4EU2 platform or an international conference, organised by one of the associations.

For different subjects two or more members of the SEG will contribute, based on a mandate given by the SEG for their fields of expertise. It is not necessary that the SEG as a whole would have to agree to the content of contributions, memos, advice and other actions on a selected subject. Professional cooperation or peer review between members of the SEG will be arranged and appreciated.



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VET European Networking Enhancement