

# European VET initiatives as an impetus for national reform endeavours

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Understanding and anticipating qualifications, skill needs, labour market trends and skills mismatch

Cedefop aims at linking more closely the worlds of education and wor





### Cedefop in a nutshell

Support/advice to the European Commission,
European Parliament, Member States and
European social partners VET policy

Research underpinning European and national VET policy

Support/advice forum for sharing ideas, policy learning

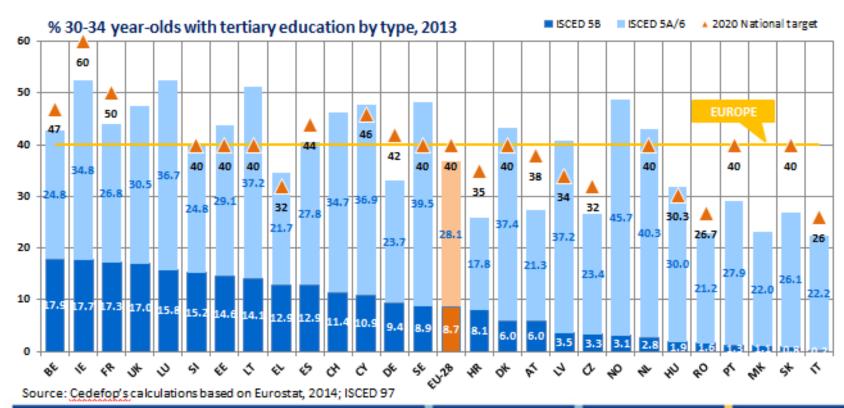
Analyses, data and statistics allowing for comparisons between countries and the identification of present challenges and future trends



- European cooperation in VET Copenhagen process
- ET 2020 revised Novembe r 2015
- Rethinking education and training
- European working groups on: VET, early leaving, key competences
- Youth guarantees, youth employment initiative
- European alliance for apprenticeship
- Erasmus+

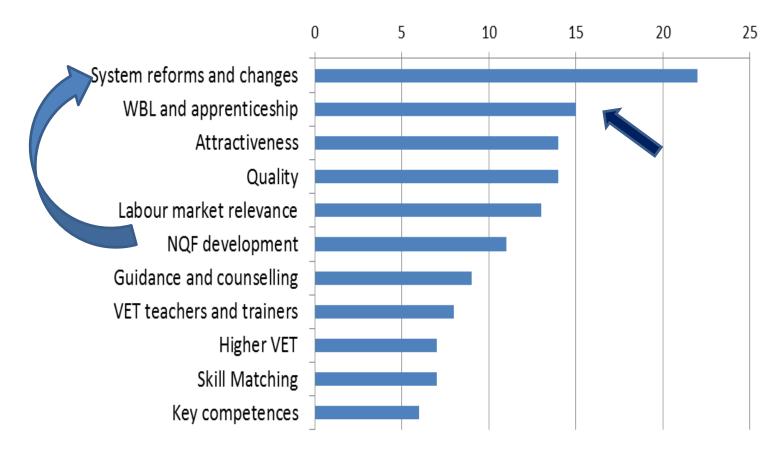


## Europe's target for 2020 – Boosting skills at the high-end VET's contribution





### **VET strategies: focus since 2010**



Note: Number of countries. Data refers to highlights, other initiatives also mentioned

Source: Cedefop, 2014

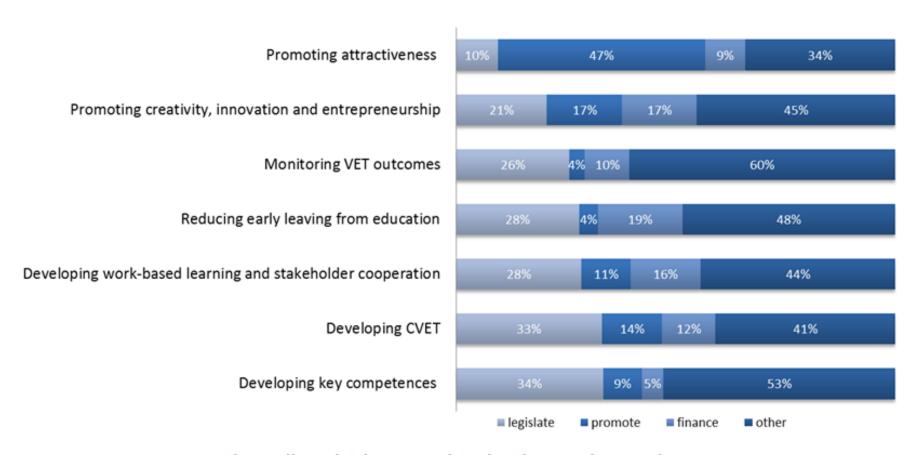


### **VET strategies: focus since 2010**

- Systemic legislation, new or adapted programmes/pathways/ qualifications/standards, curricula reform, more work-based learning
  - Quality and work-based learning and apprenticeship (15 countries)
- Work on EQF/NQF a trigger for systemic reform and a tool that does much more than shedding light on VET qualifications



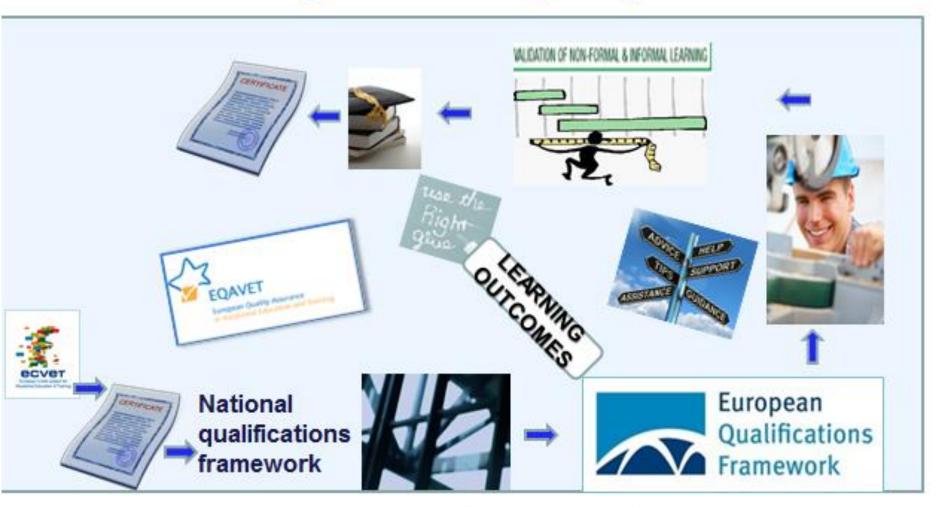
### Moving to implementation – approaches



patterns by policy aim in countries that have taken action



### European tools and principles





## The European Qualifications Framework (EQF) A bridge between qualifications systems

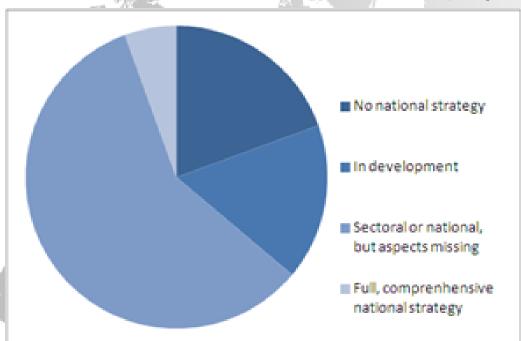
- A translation grid to understand and compare qualifications across Europe
  - Help understand the level of a qualification
  - Make relationship between qualifications clearer
- Covers qualifications at all levels and sub-systems of education and training



⇒ EU objective: Cross-border mobility and lifelong learning

## Flexible paths through validation of non-formal and informal learning

Do the countries have a national strategy for validation? (2014)

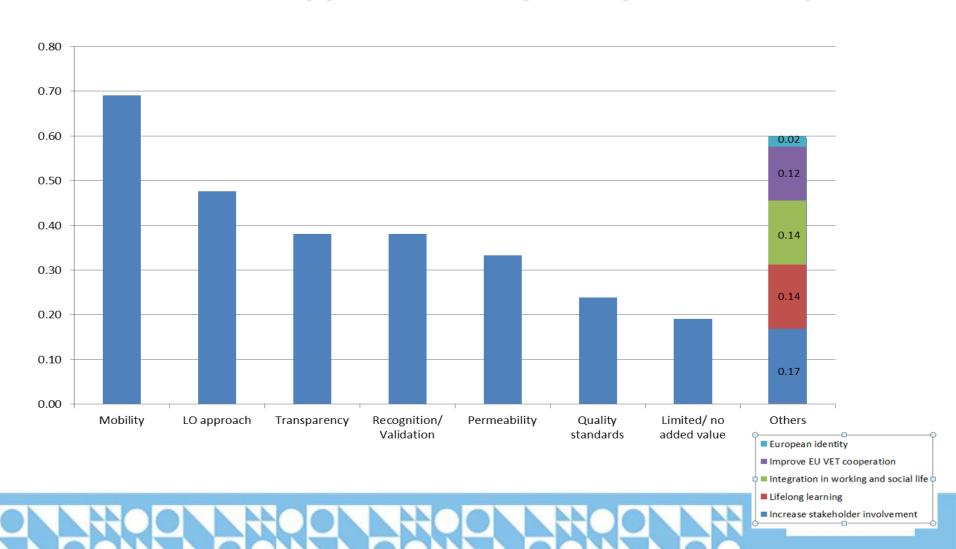


- Validation for access to higher education
- Validation for access to other types of education and training programmes
- Validation for obtaining a qualification

Source: 2014 European inventory on validation of non-formal and informal learning



### **ECVET** to support mobility and permeability



#### **Learning outcomes in VET**



- VET qualifications and curriculum reforms geared towards learning outcomes in many countries
- Increasingly outcomes-based VET and assessment standards
- Progressively aligned with NQF level descriptors work in progress
- Participation of social partners in standard-setting procedures institutionalised in most countries - sector councils





### Focus: learning outcomes for flexible paths & transitions

#### **GUIDANCE**

how to progress in learning and work

#### **TRANSPARENCY**

of skills, qualifications, learning and work opportunities learners,
employees,
unemployed,
inactive
employers .....

#### **VALUING**

of learning
by education and
work
(transfer,
recognition of
learning outcomes)

#### **REPRESENTATION**

(documentation and promotion) of skills and qualifications







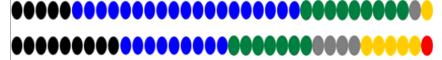
### Work-based learning developing dynamically

Apprenticeship or similar programmes

Work-based learning elements in school based IVET programmes

Incentives for enterprises to provide training or employment

Campaigns encouraging enterprises to provide or invest in VET



Strategy to foster VET-enterprise cooperation to ensure quality and relevance

- in place by 2010 and not changed in place by 2010 and adjusted since
- put in place since 2010 and adjusted since
   preparing for implementation
- put in place since 2010

no action reported





## Moving to implementation and new initiatives to prevent and remedy early leaving

Modularised NET programmes

Routes outside regular VET for qualifications valued by E&T/labour market

Alternative routes within mainstream VET

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Regulations easing access to VET

Opportunity to obtain missed qualifications in VET

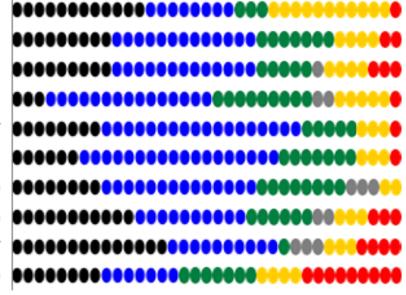
Opportunity to acquire underdeveloped key competences in VET

Guidance and mentoring for learners in IVET programmes

Training for VET teachers and/or trainers to support disadvantaged learners

Incentives for learners and their families to remain in VET

Incentives for VET institutions to prevent drop outs



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Mobility scoreboard

## EU cooperation in VET Internalisation and mobility in VET

Campaigns, information and/orguidance on learning mobility opportunities

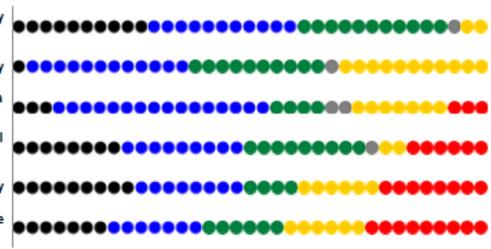
Use of EU tools and principles to support mobility

Strategies/regulations to promote internationalisation and a mobility culture in VET

Incentives/support for cross-border cooperation & transnational mobility of VET institutions/enterprises/staff

Strategies to ensure quality of mobility

Reduce administrative and financial barriers to encourage transnational mobility



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# New priorities for cooperation in VET

#### MTD 2015-20

- Work-based learning
- Quality assurance
- Access to VET and qualifications
- Key competences
- Teachers and trainers

Transversal areas

Partnerships

Funding

Excellence and innovation

Learning outcomes and tools





Ευρωπαϊκό Κέντρο για την Ανάπτυξη της Επαγγελματικής Κατάρτισης Over four decades, Cedefop's work has inspired the development of VET policy and practice across Europe















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