TRUST IN: RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations for the European VET-system

This report sums up the recommendations made in the Leonardo da Vinci partnership project TRUST IN.

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KNOWLEDGE, COLLABORATION AND LEARNING FOR SUSTAINABLE INNOVATION: RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE EUROPEAN VET SYSTEM

Based on national reviews of the European VET-system in the partner-countries, the following list sums up the key areas that are identified and deemed important in regard to training for sustainable innovation.

- The learner should be in the centre of the interest. To optimise the efficiency of VET, the role of teachers and trainers should be redesigned from "teaching" towards "organising learning processes"

- The main challenge is to create a clearer stakeholder community with joint responsibility. In this field a better dialogue is needed between the institutions offering the training and institutions like sectorial organizations, trade organizations, local governments, etc.

- VET for eco-efficiency not only needs a theoretical training approach, more attention should be given to gaining of practical experiences in order to learn how to translate theory in practice

- Increase of "smart" learning tools, which can be steered by an intelligent application of ICT in existing training programmes (including raise of E-learning and E-tools)

- Sustainable building and construction represents an enormous challenge and clearly calls for a holistic, integrated and multidisciplinary approach.

- Establishing favourable conditions for increasing the awareness, interest and of general understanding among managers and employees about the needs from vocational education and training. Communication and dialogue about the importance and benefits of CP & CSR, and the need of training on environmental issues and resource efficiency have to be improved by providing relevant information and better involvement of all interested stakeholders: national and local authorities, professional unions and sector associations, NGOs and training institutions, business and SMEs

- National programmes and incentives for the enterprises' employees have to be developed, recognizing better performance

- Dissemination of current resource efficiency knowledge, best practices and technologies will further stimulate the development and use of VET programmes

- The problem with the lack of financial resources to provide trainings for the staff and improve their qualification can be overcome by national training programmes in the field of environmental protection and resource efficiency. Further enterprises could be stimulated with tax reductions and national regulations for a minimum level of training to the personnel.

- Attracting attention of big enterprises and especially SMEs and assisting them in establishing an appropriate system of creating, controlling and analysing the environmental indicators and joining training programmes for sustainable enterprise development, including the issues of CP and CSR.

- Establishing train the trainers programmes. There is a deficiency of qualified experts in training eco-efficiency, corporate social responsibility and other related issues

- Developing sector specific training programmes for the most energy intensive industries and sectors: construction, transport, chemical industry, tourism and supply chains, etc. These tailor-made programmes have to be developed with the involvement of sector organizations and thus will attract the interest of the enterprises as they will cover their needs and problems

- Better accreditation of knowledge, skills and abilities

- Connection of initial and continuous vocation training in order to consolidate a complete an able management system

- Better management and assessment of the national vocational training system with the participation of social entities and institutions

- Quality assurance: The quality assurance is a process which helps to guarantee a standard and continuous improvement of quality. It could be achieved by using or cooperating with existing sources or projects (e.g. with the project European Quality Assurance in VET). The focus of the quality assurance should be the training structure and could include also 'trainer'/teacher verification and possible trainings of 'trainers'/teacher

- To promote the training-action learning model, where learning periods (in-classroom or through distant learning) are combined with practical application of know how

- In addition to horizontal training programmes, focus on strategic areas such as sustainable construction, sustainable tourism, renewable energies, sustainable mobility and sea activities

- Prepare a plan for didactics (textbooks, laboratory exercises, problem solving, case studies, excursions, etc.)

- The activity provides 'points' for the curriculum of for instance local authorities

- The sustainability priorities for the future and the ability and priority to promote sustainability oriented innovation should be included in the process

NEEDS, CONSTRAINTS AND SUCCESS FACTORS

The below table is the output of a brainstorm and prioritisation of important needs, constraints and success factors for sustainable innovation in the European VET-system.

PRIORITISED LISTS OF IMPORTANCE		
Needs	**Constraints**	**Success factors**
1. The issue of resource efficiency 2. Sustainable development 3. Lifecycle thinking 4. Energy efficiency 5. Behaviour	1. To get people from companies to go to courses 2. Gap between training offers and demands 3. Lack of general awareness 4. Not being on top of the political agenda	1. Find right perspective for companies (pedagogical cases) 2. Training/action-method 3. Integration in existing VET-system 4. Effective marketing 5. Quality management 6. Corporate networks and sector networks 7. Linkage to the value-chain of the company 8. On the job-training

Please see the associated background report for further details.