12ᵀᴴ TTNET ANNUAL CONFERENCE

BETTER TEACHING FOR BETTER LEARNING.
SUPPORTING TEACHERS AND TRAINERS MEETING CHALLENGES OF TODAY AND TOMORROW

Thessaloniki, 11 and 12 February 2010

Europa Room

Agenda

Rationale

Over the last several years and especially during the Swedish presidency of the EU many important aspects of teachers' and trainers' professional development have been highlighted and studied in a more detailed way. Member states have been asked by the Council of the European Union to put more efforts in supporting human capital in education and training, and the European Commission to address challenges and support co-operation in order to improve education and training systems.

The informal meeting of the Ministers for Education on 24/09/2009 in Göteborg stated that the motivation, skills and competences of teachers as well as the quality of school leadership are key factors in achieving high quality learning outcomes.

This, as well as the statement of the Swedish Education Minister, Jan Björklund, '*The quality of school could never exceed the quality of its teaching staff*', applies also to Vocational Education and Training and Adult Learning.

How to provide teachers, trainers and leaders in education and training with the competences they need to better support learning for better jobs and successful social inclusion? How to support them to better meet these and further challenges of today and tomorrow?

Objectives

Based on latest research, collection of good practice examples, EU policy documents and peer learning activities as well as contributions from the TTnet network, the TTnet Annual Conference has the objective to discuss and contribute to the following issues:

- the role and impact of mentoring in enhancing quality in the teaching/training profession;
- making further steps in the professional development of in-company trainers;

- policies and practices to equip leaders for their role to create a stimulating teaching and learning environment.

Future activity lines for TTnet in 2011-2012 in the field of 'inclusive teaching', 'teaching and learning outcomes' and 'mobility and internationalisation' will also be discussed.

Participants will consider both political and practical trends and issues, will examine case studies and good examples, will discuss on potential actions and will formulate key messages on the topics of the conference to be considered both from the side of the policy makers and the practitioners and both on national and European level.

The conference will bring together policy makers, representatives of European and international institutions, training practitioners, representatives of training institutes and researchers.

Thursday, 11 February 2010

14.45 – 15.15	Registration of participants
15.15 - 16.00	**Opening Session**
	Opening of the Conference Christian Lettmayr, Cedefop Deputy Director **Objectives of the Conference and TTnet activities** Maria Todorova, Cedefop **Teachers' Professional Development: Europe in international comparison** Lars Jakobsen, European Commission
16.00 - 16.20	Coffee break
16.20 - 18.50	**Three parallel workshops** **Mentoring in VET, Leadership and In-company trainers**
Workshop 1	**Mentoring in VET**
	Chair: David Gray and Ken Marsh**,** TTnet United Kingdom **'Developing Coherent and System-wide Induction Programmes for Beginning Teachers - a handbook for policymakers', European Commission Staff working paper** by Eve Eisenschmidt, Tallinn University Haapsalu College, Estonia

'Mentoring: a supporting relationship whose time has come. Presentation of TTnet Handbook structure.
David Gray/Ken Marsh, TTnet United Kingdom

Case studies from Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Lithuania, Netherlands, United Kingdom.

Rapporteur: to be nominated during the workshop

Workshop 2	**Leadership**

Chair: Kristiina Volmari, TTnet Finland

Leadership of VET schools - Management Performance regimes versus the burning commitment
Sören Nielsen, European Training Foundation

Cedefop's perspective and issues for reflection
Maria Todorova, Cedefop

Identifying challenges to VET leadership in preparation of survey on VET leaders in Europe
Group discussion

Rapporteur: Lidia Vinczéné Fekete, TTnet Hungary

Workshop 3	**In-company trainers**

Chair: Ioannis Zenios, TTnet Cyprus

Defining strategies to support in-company trainers. Challenges and opportunities for TTnet
Rocio Lardinois de la Torre, Cedefop

Contributions from the National networks
Andreas Loizou, TTnet Cyprus
Rasmus Frimodt, TTnet Denmark
Thierry Pineau, TTnet France
Hans-Joachim Müller, TTnet Germany
Peter van Schnijdel and Piet Lem, TTnet Netherlands

Discussion

Rapporteur: to be nominated during the workshop

19.15 – 21.00	**Dinner offered by Cedefop**

Friday, 12 February 2010

9.00 - 10.30	**Plenary Session - TTnet studies and thematic workshops**
	Chair: Rocio Lardinois de la Torre, Cedefop **Changing roles and competences of VET teachers and trainers** Roland Tutschner, ITB, Bremen **Reporting from Workshop 1**: Mentoring in VET **Reporting from Workshop 2**: Leadership **Reporting from Workshop 3**: In-company trainers
10.30 - 11.00	Coffee break
11.00 - 13.00	**Panel discussion - Challenging teaching – inclusion, learning outcomes, mobility**
	Chair: Loukas Zahilas, Cedefop **TTnet main achievements** Maria Todorova, Cedefop **Compilation of good practice on professional development opportunities for in-company trainers** Rocio Lardinois de la Torre, Cedefop **Highlights from the National TTnets** Herold Gross, TTnet Germany Nora M.T. Byrne, TTnet Ireland Juraj Vantuch, TTnet Slovakia **Learning outcomes changing written and taught curricula** Irene Psifidou, Cedefop **The role of Education and Vocational training for promoting Social Inclusion** Alessandra Molz, Cedefop and International Labour Organisation (ILO) **Mobility and internationalisation, a concrete proposal for TTnet** Françoise Dax-Boyer, TTnet France **Discussion**
13.00	**End of Conference**

∗∗∗ English is the working language ∗∗∗