

**CALL FOR PAPERS****Workshop****Designing, implementing and supporting effective work-based learning
in continuing vocational education and training**

Cedefop, Thessaloniki, 21-22 October 2014

This workshop is addressed to European and national policy-makers, including social partners, and other key stakeholders working in the field of continuing vocational education and training (CVET) such as human resources managers, training providers and researchers.

Through presentations and interactive sessions, the workshop aims to share new knowledge and practical experience in work-based learning and to discuss their implications for policy and practice. The focus is on:

- 1. Effective use of work-based learning in CVET in firms;**
- 2. How public policy and new forms of governance can support good practice.**

Background

The importance of CVET is growing. This is due to several factors, for example trends towards an ageing society and longer working lives, which make it necessary that adults regularly update and broaden their skills through CVET. The more and more rapid technological and socio-economic developments and the need to respond to fast changing requirements are other factors that highlight the crucial role of CVET. Therefore, European policy-makers are turning their attention to CVET, especially its work-based forms. The Bruges Communiqué highlighted WBL as a foundation both of professional and personal development and of social cohesion, and included it in fields requiring more strategic action. The renewed European agenda for adult learning calls for promoting WBL to support flexible provision of training and greater social inclusion. WBL has a key role to play in contributing to reach the Education and Training 2020 (“ET 2020”) target of 15% average participation rate of adults in lifelong learning by 2020.

Despite this policy interest, the potential of WBL within CVET remains largely unfulfilled. How can WBL be used more effectively, i.e. which approaches can be used to foster high quality CVET and to accommodate the changing learning and skill needs of a wider range of adults and firms, and thus increase participation? Systematic knowledge of its uses in CVET in Europe is lacking and the knowledge we have is fragmented. Yet policy-makers and practitioners need a complete overview in order to make informed decisions.

Topics

Papers that address one or more of the following issues from a policy and/or practical and/or theoretical perspective are welcome:

1. Work-based learning (WBL) in CVET in firms: approaches, challenges and success factors, such as:

- **Types of WBL**

- Which approaches/patterns/schemes/mechanisms exist in Europe and what are their key features (providers, learning settings, aims, etc.)?
- How far do approaches vary between different EU countries and/or sectors?
- What are the current trends?

- **Barriers and challenges**

- What are main barriers and challenges for designing and implementing WBL?
- Which are the barriers to employers'/employees'/social partners' engagement?
- What are key challenges in provision, for both training providers and clients?
- How can these barriers and challenges be successfully overcome?

- **Success factors, including examples of good practice and/or case studies**

- What are success factors for designing and implementing WBL in CVET in firms?
- Which good examples of practice/case studies of WBL in CVET exist, and what can we learn from them?

2. Supporting the effective use of WBL in CVET in enterprises – the role of public policies and governance models, such as :

- **Types of policies and governance models**

- Which types of EU-level and/or national policies, programmes or other initiatives regulating or promoting WBL in firms can be identified in Europe? Are there any types not based on regulation or promotion?
- Which governance models are applied, which stakeholders are involved in what role?
- How far do policy approaches and/or governance models vary between EU countries or sectors?
- What are the current issues and trends in public policies and governance?

- **Success factors, including examples of good practice/case studies**

- What success factors can we identify for effective public policies and governance?
- What can we learn from good models of public policies and governance?

The time allowed for each paper is 20 minutes (**10-15 min. presentation**, 5-10 min. discussion).

Abstracts

Abstracts (**max. 250 words**) should contain the title of the contribution and a clear description of

- research question / study question,
- aims,
- relevance to workshop topic,
- methodology and/or conceptual framework,
- findings,
- significance for policy-making/policy implications.

Pan-European/cross-national studies and case studies/good practice examples are especially welcome. Please provide full contact details along with short information on your current affiliation and job title/function.

Proposals (MS word file) should be sent to alessia.demartino@cedefop.europa.eu, by 23.05.2014.

Note: the workshop language is English. The presentation slides will be posted on the event page of Cedefop's website. Photos from the event may be posted on our website and social media pages.

Selection

The proposals will be reviewed according to the following criteria:

- Clarity of research/study question
- Relevance to workshop topic
- Clarity and appropriateness of methodology and conceptual framework
- Rationale, clarity and overall quality of the abstract
- Significance for policy-making

Submitters will be notified whether their proposal is accepted within 6 weeks after the submission deadline. Travel and accommodation costs of presenters will be reimbursed according to Cedefop rules.

Contact

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