



CEDEFOP

European Centre
for the Development
of Vocational Training

WORKSHOP

Attractive vocational education and training: what really matters ?

9-10 OCTOBER 2012
BRUSSELS, BELGIUM



VET attractiveness: A postcommunist EU country dilemma

Juraj Vantuch

www.refernet.sk

vantuch2011@gmail.com



CEDEFOP

European Centre
for the Development
of Vocational Training

WORKSHOP

Attractive vocational education and training: what really matters ?

9-10 OCTOBER 2012
BRUSSELS, BELGIUM



VET attractiveness: The case of Slovakia



Commenting study findings



Validating national country fiche



Explaining national context:

A postcommunist EU country dilemma



CEDEFOP

European Centre
for the Development
of Vocational Training

WORKSHOP

Attractive vocational education and training: what really matters ?

9-10 OCTOBER 2012
BRUSSELS, BELGIUM



European Economic
and Social Committee

Measures to improve quality or raise the attractiveness of IVET

Slovakia : Five measures (out of 22) identified by the study **(Numbers according to columns of Tab. D1)**

- 3 - Improve access for specific groups (Roma?)
- 7 - Campaigns to raise awareness
- 10 - Reduce drop outs (Roma?)
- 13 - Create VET programmes at higher level (**clarification?**)
- 20 - Structural changes to improve collaboration (Act on VET?)

State of the art in Slovakia according to ReferNet Slovakia :

- Measures in progress 1, 2, 8, 14, 15, 17
- Measures pending or addressed insufficiently 4, 5, 6, 11, 12, 16, 18, 22
- Measures not relevant: 9, 19 or just raising: (19), 21

Juraj Vantuch, ReferNet Slovakia



CEDEFOP

European Centre
for the Development
of Vocational Training

WORKSHOP

Attractive vocational education and training: what really matters ?

9-10 OCTOBER 2012
BRUSSELS, BELGIUM



European Economic
and Social Committee

Reported measures to raise the IVET attractiveness

Identified (Background paper Table 4.1, Slovakia) :

- Campaigns to raise awareness (especially targeted at primary students and their parents)
- Outreach by VET schools to raise enrolment

Relevant according to ReferNet Slovakia:

- 2009 Act on VET initiated by employers (**first ever**)
 - New VET governance created (**Councils, „ sponsors“**)
 - Regional VET Centres as **centres of excellence** established
- since 2008 new IVET curricula designing (**Decentralised**)
- since 2012 VET schools programmes adjusted (**LM needs**)



CEDEFOP

European Centre
for the Development
of Vocational Training

WORKSHOP

Attractive vocational education and training: what really matters ?

9-10 OCTOBER 2012
BRUSSELS, BELGIUM



Validating national country fiche

➤ **In essence fine**, some adjusting however needed (foreigners!)

- The number of graduates in ISCED 5A education increased from 34,019 to 50,040 between **2007 and 2008** alone, ...*But 42,027 in 2010 (Bologna !)*
- The act ...provides legislative backing for revolutionary change...IVET, by establishing regional centres of vocational education and training. **In the Košice Self- Governing Region, 5 centres of VET have started their operation..... and are envisaged as leading regional VET centres promoting excellence in respective sector related VET.to delete the red („not just Košice“)**
- However IVET attractiveness has **diminished in recent (?)** years, **particularly at ISCED 3C level education, as the popularity of tertiary education (?) continues to rise.** The challenge in increasing the attractiveness of IVET lies not only in addressing the public perception that general and HE bring better employment .. and higher salaries ...(Eurobarometer 2004 ↗2011, **„Early specialisation?“**)

Juraj Vantuch, ReferNet Slovakia



CEDEFOP

European Centre
for the Development
of Vocational Training

WORKSHOP

Attractive vocational education and training: what really matters ?

9-10 OCTOBER 2012
BRUSSELS, BELGIUM



Validating national country fiche

Some changes to prevent from misunderstandings

- ... SOU ('stredné odborné učilište' - **specialised secondary schools** providing predominantly practically oriented vocational education) and SOS ('stredná odborná škola' - providing predominantly theoretically
- Slovakia's programme of **fiscal** decentralisation (begun in 2005) saw self-governing regions take responsibility for the establishment and **cancelling** of **all** previously state managed VET schools.....
- Secondary specialised schools traditionally **provide** for ISCED 3A and in **special** cases, post-secondary education(ISCED 4 and 5B)....
- As of 2008**, all ISCED 3C programmes **are offered by** secondary specialised schools.

VET attractiveness: A postcommunist EU country dilemma

1. Dilemma : VET strong and... unattractive?!

Slovakia – one of EU strongest secondary VET streams

Newly enrolled

1989 - GEN/VET **15% / 85%** **VOC** schools (dominantly 3C) **45105**

2011 - GEN/VET **31,5% / 68,5%** **VET** schools: 3A 27843 **3C 8092**

- Population decline
- Per capita funding → suction effect



CEDEFOP

European Centre
for the Development
of Vocational Training

WORKSHOP

Attractive vocational education and training: what really matters ?

9-10 OCTOBER 2012
BRUSSELS, BELGIUM



VET attractiveness: A postcommunist EU country dilemma

2. Dilemma : Soft vs Hard

Guidance and Counselling vs Regulation

- Mismatch accelerated:
 - Fear from early specialisation
 - Break in family tradition
 - **Transformation shock → Playing the lottery ?**
 - Overqualification does not matter
- Sec VET - No barrier to higher education!
- Quality of counselling improving - but slowly

VET attractiveness: A postcommunist EU country dilemma

3. Dilemma : Knowledge vs Assembling

Slovakia - **What kind of National economy?**

- Automotive and electro sectors need dominantly ISCED 3C
- **Regulation newly introduced**
Admission to SEC- relevant subjects marks tested
 - ISCED 3A GEN - average mark below 2,0
 - ISCED 3A VET - average mark below 2,7
- **Slovakia ISCED 3C based economy? For how long?**



CEDEFOP

European Centre
for the Development
of Vocational Training

WORKSHOP

Attractive vocational education and training: what really matters ?

9-10 OCTOBER 2012
BRUSSELS, BELGIUM



VET attractiveness: A postcommunist EU country dilemma

Thank you for your attention

Juraj Vantuch

www.refernet.sk

vantuch2011@gmail.com