



Vocational Education and Training & Innovation

CLEAR – Creativity Innovation Learning

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Request – develop links between VET and Innovation

Some doubts (traditional thinking):

- **Innovation is something for higher education, R&D**
- **Role of VET is to "produce" workers with skills demanded on the labour market – to do it – we should focus on quality assurance**

What is innovation?

Changing paradigm

✓ not only linear, R&D based, world class science resulting in creation of radical inventions, technology diffusion to clusters of firms, scientists as sources



User-driven innovation

System innovation

Open innovation

Practice-based innovation

Platform-based economic development policy



Example from Finland (source of innovation)

- **Science-based innovation (4%)**
Science, R&D, technology
 - **Practice-based (96%)**
Doing, using, interacting (DUI)

More and more innovation is created in broader, heterogeneous interdisciplinary social and economic contexts within an applied setting (DUI).

Innovation...

- **combining knowledge, expertise and technology in novel ways**
- **about different types: product, process, organisational, social, system, service...**
- **based on complex, interactive and continuous processes**
- **Is not a marginal phenomenon but a part of everyone's life**

VET excellence

- **Proactive approach - raising ambitions and demands on VET**
- **Redefined role of VET in terms of supporting growth, innovation, competitiveness**
- **Building on, but going beyond LM relevance and QA**

VET excellence at a glance

System level

- evidence-based policies which improve effectiveness and efficiency of system,
- cooperation and co-investment, including the EU level sectorial initiatives
- VET integrated in the overall education and training system
- Quality assurance frameworks together with incentives for VET excellence
- targeting continuing skills development, mobility and permeability between VET and HE

Firm level

- use of integrative work organisation
- effective skills utilisation
- responsibility for initial VET, provision of apprenticeships and lifelong learning

Institutional / provider level

- strategic linkages and networking with the broader economic community at regional, national and international level
- quality of learning support – teachers and trainers who combine high quality professional skills, pedagogic competences with understanding of markets/value chains/work processes and are networkers, able to keep up with changes and involve learners in networks
- organisational excellence – leadership and career/competence development of teaching staff

Individual / learner level

- development of accomplished professionals
- flexible and adaptable individuals, skills for entrepreneurship



Thank you for your attention!

http://ec.europa.eu/education/news/rethinking/sw375_en.pdf