



RECENT POLICY DEVELOPMENTS IN EDUCATION AND TRAINING AT EU LEVEL

**Kick-off meeting KA1-ECET projects - Brussels, 16 May 2014
Fiorella Perotto, DG EAC.A.1**

MAIN AREAS :

- **ERASMUS+**
- **EUROPE 2020**
- **ET2020**
- **New Cohesion Policy**
- **New evidence on Education and Training**
- **Recent key documents**



ERASMUS+

- **Combines 7 programmes for education, training and youth (+ sport)**
- **3 Key Actions :**
 - 1) Learning mobility for individuals**
 - 2) Cooperation for innovation and exchange of good practice**
 - 3) Support for policy reform**
- **Budget : 14,7 billion € (+40%)**

Erasmus+ Key Action 3 *Prospective Initiatives*

Policy implementation



**European Policy
Experimentations**

Policy development



**Forward-looking
cooperation projects**

EUROPE 2020

Education headline target - good progress:

Early School Leaving:

➤ **12.7%** in 2012 (down from 13.4%)

Tertiary or equivalent attainment:

➤ **35.7%** in 2012 (up from 34.6%)

... but need to **sustain** efforts
wide **disparities**



EUROPE 2020

2013 European Semester: Key messages

- **Skills mismatches** and **bottlenecks** : inadequacy of certain E&T systems, youth unemployment
- **High-quality VET** to facilitate transition from education to employment
- **Preserve** and **strengthen investment** in E&T
- Make education and training more **efficient**



EUROPE 2020 - 2013 European Semester CSRs in education and training

- 6 CSRs on ***Early School Leaving***
- 17 CSRs on *youth unemployment*
- 16 CSRs on *VET (incl. apprenticeships)*
- 14 CSRs on *lifelong learning and skills*
- 10 CSRs on *early childhood education and care*
- 10 CSRs on *school outcomes*
- 10 CSRs on *higher education*
- 9 CSRs on *disadvantaged groups*
- 3 CSRs on *teaching profession*

EUROPE 2020 - 2014 Annual Growth Survey

Key role of E&T :

- **Modernise E&T systems**
- Provide relevant **skills**
- Support **young** people
- Protect **investment** in E&T + increase **efficiency** of public expenditure
- Cater for needs of **vulnerable** groups



EUROPE 2020 Review

**Ongoing public consultation
(5 May – 31 October 2014):**

http://ec.europa.eu/europe2020/public-consultation/index_en.htm



ET 2020

New **Working Groups**

- - 1) Vocational education and training
 - 2) Adult Learning
 - 3) School Policy
 - 4) Modernisation of Higher Education
 - 5) Transversal Skills
 - 6) Digital Skills and On-line learning



ET 2020

Stocktaking & 2015 Joint Council-Commission Report

- **Thematic and cross-country analysis**
- **Priority areas for next cycle**
- **Governance**
- **National Reports (June 2014)**
- **Stakeholder consultations (2014)**

New Cohesion Policy

- **European Structural and Investment Funds**
- **Thematic objective n° 10 : *"Investing in education, vocational training for skills and lifelong learning "***
- **4 relevant investment priorities : *general education, tertiary education lifelong learning, labour market relevance of E&T (VET)***
- **Thematic concentration**
- **Ex-ante conditionalities**

New evidence on E&T : PIAAC (OECD survey on literacy, numeracy and problem solving skills of 16-65 year olds in technology-rich environments - October 2013)

- **20%** of EU working age population, 1 unemployed **out of 4** : low literacy and numeracy skills
- 25% of adults lack ICT skills
- High-skilled progress well into learning, but low-skilled risk '**low skills trap**'
- Significant **differences** between individuals with similar qualifications across EU17
- Skills bring good economic and social outcomes - but deteriorate.

New evidence on E&T : PISA

(OECD survey on maths, science and reading skills of 15 year olds - December 2013)

- Improvement in **science and reading** (but gender gap)
- **EU lagging behind in Maths**
- EU on track to achieve its 2020 target for reducing the percentage of low achievers to below 15%, but slow progress and mixed results between countries
- **Socio-economic** (and **migrant**) **status** can be determinant

Recent key documents

- **Opening up Education: Innovative teaching and learning for all through new Technologies and Open Educational Resources (2013)**
(http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-13-859_en.htm)
- **Council conclusions on efficient and innovative education and training to invest in skills - supporting the 2014 European Semester (2014)**
(http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/press_data/en/educ/141138.pdf)



EASQ

EUROPEAN AREA OF SKILLS AND QUALIFICATIONS

Public consultation (closed) on policies and tools for transparency and recognition when moving between and within EU Member States and on the potential benefits of developing an EASQ.



More info :

http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/education_culture/index_en.htm