

AGENDA

TURKEY-CENTRES OF VOCATIONAL EXCELLENCE (COVES), AS AN APPROACH TO GET HIGHER STANDARDS IN VET.

ONLINE

9 JUNE 2021, 12:00-15:00 (CEST)

SUMMARY

The ETF cooperates with and complements the work of the European Commission and the European External Action Service, including responding to requests from the **Delegation of the European Union to Turkey**, contributing to the EU-Turkey bilateral policy dialogue.

The ETF gives input to EU policy monitoring mechanisms on VET, employment and social inclusion including an annual assessment of Turkey's Economic Reform Programme, and wider human capital developments reported in the Torino Process. It supports sector policy dialogue and donor coordination.

ETF support to Turkish institutions and stakeholders relates to the rolling out of Turkey's Education Vision 2023 for the TVET and lifelong learning sectors, employment, work-based learning quality assurance framework including cost-benefit analysis of apprenticeships, the Turkish Qualifications Framework and the validation of non-formal learning, and skills for the future in certain sectors. The ETF provides expertise and collaborates closely with public/private institutions in the areas of human

resource development in Turkey including an interinstitutional high-level public-private steering group, operationally strategic national coordination structures and technical working groups¹.

Turkey Education Vision 2023 focuses on most of the above themes with concrete measures on how to increase the positive perception of VET by addressing its attractiveness through strengthening cooperation with stakeholders, professional and pedagogical development of teachers, supporting diversity and increasing the positive perception of VET, establishment of quality assurance system for VET, improving applied training and qualifications, and social integration through VET².

Turkey MoNE and Turkish Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges (TOBB) has entered a public-private sector joint management model, in which it will coordinate 81 vocational high schools across all provinces in Turkey, as part of a protocol signed with the Turkish Education Ministry. As such, work-placements for students will be arranged through the associate companies of TOBB. A 'Protocol Implementation Board' is further foreseen, which will guide the school administrations and the curriculum, based on the needs of the relevant industries. The idea behind the new vocational education model is to better link vocational training with developments in the labour market and to increase financial and expert support from the private sector.

European Union Delegation to Turkey in decades has been a key supporter in improving education and training system in Turkey. IPA II – “Improving the quality of Vocational Education and Training through establishment of Sectoral Centres of Excellence – Turkey – 2020³ is supporting MoNE on the extension of excellence to the Turkey VET system by strengthening the partnerships within and between different Turkey public and private stakeholders to address their own development collaboratively.

The ETF's initiative on Centres of Excellence in VET involves the creation of a network offering a platform for continuous exchange of practice among new and existing centres of excellence at local, national, or international level⁴. The network will support the diffusion of excellence to the VET system and support the development of **partnerships** within and between different countries to learn from one another and to address their own development collaboratively. Methodological **tools** will be developed to support the development of centres of excellence. The ETF initiative is connected to the **wider initiative** of the European Commission. Cooperation between centres of excellence from our partner countries and those in the European Union and across the globe will offer important mutual benefits for improvement through **peer learning**.

The ETF network is focused on eight themes:

- Lifelong learning in vocational education and training – from initial to continuing training and adult education
- Education-business collaboration and cooperation
- Pedagogy and professional development
- Smart specialisation – Mobilising Innovation, ecosystems and SMEs
- Industry 4.0 and digitalisation
- Autonomy and Institutional Development (financing, leadership, governance)
- Going green – supporting sustainable goals
- Social inclusion

Turkey MoNE Vocational Education and Training schools and Centers of Vocational Education and Training Centers have joint ETF ENE in a considerable big number (50 CoVEs). These Centres of vocational excellence are organisations aiming to enhance the quality in education and training

¹ [Turkey | ETF \(europa.eu\)](https://turkey.europa.eu/en/turkey)

² https://mtegm.meb.gov.tr/meb_iys_dosyalar/2020_06/23164056_Future_of_Vocational_and_Technical_Education_in_Turkey_Solid_Steps_Taken_After_Education_Vision_2023668405-912561.pdf

³ <https://www.welcomeurope.com/calls-projects/ipa-ii-improving-the-quality-of-vocational-education-and-training-through-establishment-of-sectoral-centres-of-excellence-turkey-2020/>

⁴ [Network For Excellence | ETF \(europa.eu\)](https://networkforexcellence.eu/)

provision and to respond to labour market skills demands. They are vocational schools or other providers or clusters and have diverse sectorial profiles. They all aim to successfully address the needs of specific local contexts, connects with smart specialisation strategies creating synergy between government and private sector initiatives to deliver good results. They can be beacons for vocational training reforms, and good partnerships between relevant stakeholders.

This webinar is one of the many policies and expertise exchange platforms between European Training Foundation (ETF), European Union Delegation to Turkey and Turkey Ministry of National Education (MoNE).

The objective of this ETF facilitated webinar is to exchange and discuss with Turkey Ministry of National Education, EUD Turkey on the needs and opportunities of centres of excellence to become drivers of skills' provision, all informed by diverse European and international practices as well as the experience of ETF partner countries Centres of VET Excellence.

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Facilitator: Lida Kita, Senior Human Capital Development Expert - Social Inclusion - Country Liaison for Israel, Serbia and Turkey

12:00 - 12:30	<p><i>Opening remarks</i></p> <p>Georgios Zisimos, Head of Policy Advice and EU Programming Unit, ETF</p> <p>Angel Gutierrez Hidalgo de Quintana, Head of Economic and Social Development Section, First Undersecretary of the EU Delegation, Turkey</p> <p>Kemal Varin Numanoğlu, Director General, Directorate of Vocational and Technical Education, Ministry of National Education, Turkey</p>
12: 30 – 12:50	<p><i>Structure, governance, funding and partnership models of CoVEs</i></p> <p>ETF ENE Team</p>
12:50 – 13: 00	<i>Questions and Answers</i>
13: 00 – 13:15	<p><i>Best practices for CoVEs- how to cooperate and exchange with the ETF ENE</i></p> <p>Interactive discussions</p>
13: 15 – 13:25	<i>Coffee break</i>
13: 25 – 13:45	<i>Questions and Answers</i>
13: 45 – 14:10	<p>Current Developments on VET in Turkey</p> <p>Besim Durgun, Expert</p>
14: 10 – 14: 45	<i>Questions and answers</i>
14:45 – 15:00	<p><i>Next Steps and Closing remarks</i></p> <p>Turkey Ministry of National Education, EUD Turkey and ETF</p>