# SISI: SHARING INNOVATION IN SOCIAL INCLUSION

# THEMATIC MEETING 4

# WORKSHOP

# THEMES AND CHALLENGES

# THEMATIC AREAS FOR DEVELOPMENT

The development of action plans for social innovation in VET education should encompass several key areas of focus. These areas provide a framework for addressing the evolving needs and challenges within the education sector. The following areas should be considered when formulating action plans:

**The following list is open to your additions/comments and integrations.**

1. **Work-Based Learning**: Work-based learning programs bridge the gap between education and the labor market by providing students with practical, hands-on experience. Action plans should focus on integrating work-based learning opportunities into the curriculum, forging partnerships with local industries, and designing apprenticeship programs. These initiatives can enhance students' employability, foster entrepreneurship, and align vocational education with industry needs.

2. **Private-Public Partnership**: Collaboration between VET institutions and the private sector is essential for creating relevant and market-oriented training programs. Action plans should emphasize the establishment of robust private-public partnerships. These partnerships can facilitate curriculum development, resource sharing, and the identification of skill gaps. Engaging employers in the educational process ensures that training programs are aligned with industry requirements, improving job prospects for all students.

3. **Capacity Building and Upskilling**: Action plans should focus on enhancing the capabilities of VET educators and staff. Professional development opportunities, training programs, and mentoring initiatives should be incorporated to enhance their pedagogical skills, industry knowledge, and understanding of social innovation. Capacity building efforts enable educators to effectively deliver innovative and impactful education and training experiences.

4. **Technological Innovation**: Action plans should leverage technological advancements to transform VET education. This includes integrating digital tools, online learning platforms, and virtual simulations into the curriculum. By embracing technology, educators can enhance the learning experience, improve access to education, and develop digital skills that are increasingly in demand in the modern workforce.

5. **Pedagogical Innovation**: Action plans should prioritize pedagogical innovation to promote learner-centered approaches. This involves adopting active learning methodologies, project-based learning, and interdisciplinary approaches. Encouraging critical thinking, problem-solving, and creativity prepares students for the complex challenges they will encounter in their careers and fosters a culture of social innovation.

**By focusing on these areas of development, action plans for social innovation in VET education can lay the foundation for a future-oriented and inclusive VET system that equips learners with the skills and mindset necessary for success in an ever-changing**

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# KEY QUESTIONS TO IDENTIFY CHALLENGES

As a result of the previous work implemented within the Initiative a few key challenges related to the above mentioned areas of development have emerged. The following list includes those findings and it is open to your additions and contributions. Please share with us your reflections on this BEFORE and DURING our workshop to contribute to the identification of the key questions that are instrumental for the development of the Action Plan.

## WBL- How Might We

**HMW involve the private sector in order to achieve an inclusive and high quality WBL?**

*Some examples…*

- *Assess and select hosting companies according to a set of pre-defined criteria Reward virtuous companies with a quality label and give them visibility*
- *Invite partner companies to your school, make them part of the whole educational path of the students*
- *Provide training to the company tutors / mentors*
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## Pedagogical Innovation – How Might We

**HMW boost innovation among trainers?**

*Some examples…*

- *Provide training opportunities to develop their soft skills*
- *Reward those who experiment and trigger change*
- *Promote cross-sectorial and multidisciplinary working teams among staff*

**HMW implement innovation and social inclusion within our organisation?**

*Some examples...*

- *Create a repository of inspiring contents available to the whole staff*
- *Organise focus groups with middle-management to get them on board*
- *Appoint "ambassadors" among staff, as drivers and role models*
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# Upskilling- How Might We

**HMW develop opportunity of exchange and upskilling for staff?**

*Some examples...*

- *Host staff from other training centre for peer-learning*
- *Organise thematic study visits to local stakeholders*
- *Arrange a short virtual exchange with another VET provider*
- *Provide international mobility opportunities such as learning mobility/job shadowing/study visits*

**HMW Integrate the input from teachers/trainers, VET learners and employers into curriculum, profile design and training reform?**

*Some examples…*

- *Conduct a survey among partner companies on skill needs*
- *Organise a focus groups with trainers and project developers*
- *Submit a questionnaire to former students/alumni to have their feedback*
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**HMW Integrate the input from teachers/trainers, VET learners and employers into curriculum, profile design and training reform?**

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