



**Vocational Excellence & CoVEs:  
Working together towards high-quality,  
innovative, local and international  
skills ecosystems in Ukraine.**

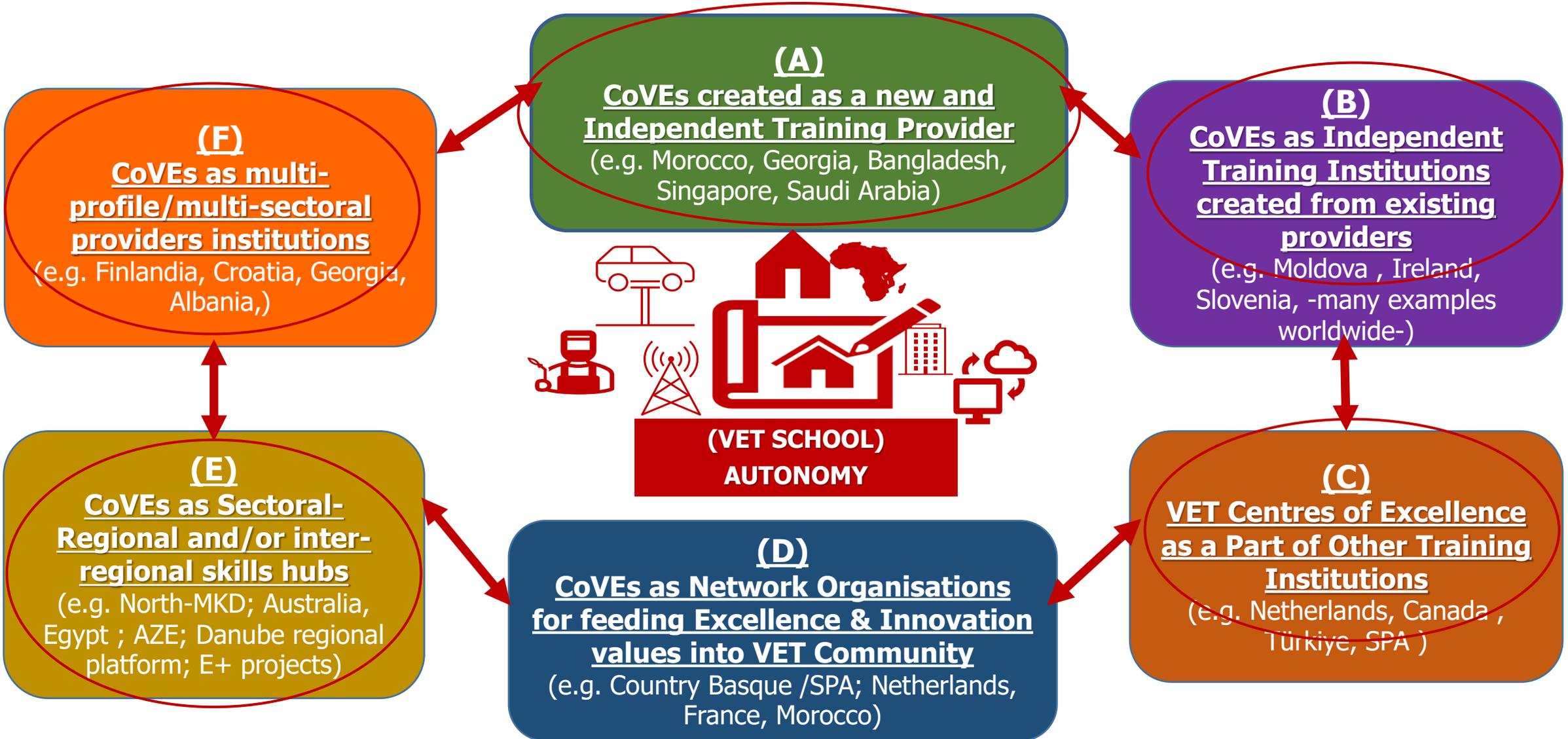
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## **3 QUESTIONS MARK TO KEEP IN MIND**

- 1. What would be main elements for building strategic vision supporting CoVEs mission on playing leading/coordinating role in the skills ecosystems for supporting socioeconomic, regional development –and reconstruction- in Ukraine?***
- 2. Who would be main actors, players, stakeholders (etc.), playing a key role in building cooperation and partnerships with CoVEs in the ecosystem? How to map and engage them in the Ukrainian context?***
- 3. Which governance arrangements, tools and capacities would be needed to be used and developed by CoVEs to perform in outstanding manner in Ukrainian skills ecosystems?***

**TRANSFORMING VET PROVIDER ROLES AND ACTIVATING CoVEs SET-UPS FOR SHAPING SKILL ECOSYSTEMS**

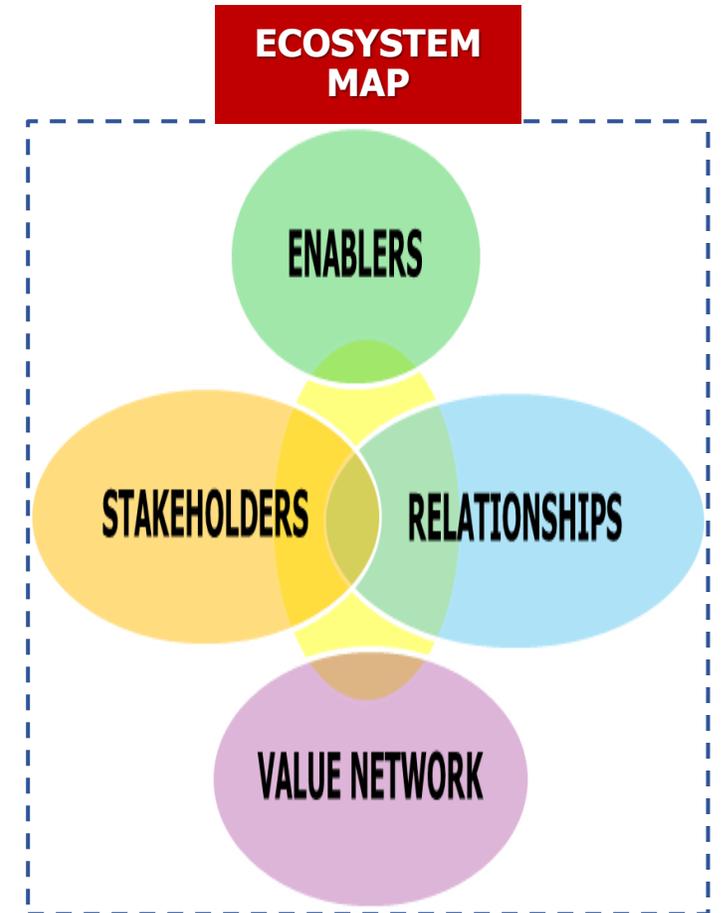


# EXCELLENT SKILLS ECOSYSTEMS & CoVEs: VET PROVIDERS ROLE/TASKS

## BOX 17. Checking list of main CoVEs tasks needed to be integrated into Skills Ecosystems (formation and implementation)

- Establishing and/or upgrading infrastructure, encompassing buildings, training equipment, laboratories, and related facilities.
- Accessing training equipment for work-based learning (WBL opportunities), apprenticeships, and practical skills training through partnerships with CoVE companies.
- Continuous training for high-level teaching staff in both soft and professional skills, supplemented with modern ICT tools and teaching methodologies.
- Training mentors in companies for guiding VET students and adults, integrating work-based learning into curricula.
- Expanding training opportunities in initial and continuous VET, including lifelong learning programs, with regular curriculum updates and development.
- Conducting annual self-assessments, analysing results, and devising improvement strategies.
- Implementing quality assurance mechanisms, including external evaluations and peer learning.
- Efficient institutional management with clear role delineations among CoVE partners and an organizational plan.
- Formulating an internationalization strategy, engaging in international projects, and fostering partnerships worldwide.
- Securing stable financial resources from diverse public and private funding streams.
- Cultivating partnerships with various stakeholders, including higher education providers, companies, and public bodies.
- Pursuing awards and recognition for vocational excellence.
- Aligning VET curricula with national qualification frameworks and developing accompanying teaching materials.
- Providing continuous VET for adults in their respective fields, with collaboration from companies.
- Validating professional skills acquired through non-formal and informal means.
- Offering career guidance services.
- Establishing in-school companies to enhance practical learning experiences.
- Generating income through various means.
- Developing international cooperation and project management skills.
- Creating employment pathways for graduates within partner companies.
- Communication and Marketing strategies to promote VET Centre and engage with ecosystem actors.

Source: ENE CoVEs- interview outcomes



# VET INTERNATIONALIZATION & EXCELENT PROVISION: KEY AREAS TO FOCUS FOR BENEFITS

Table 1. KEY AREAS & TOOLS ADRESSING VET EXCELLENCE PROVISION & INTERNATIONALIZATION	
FOCUS	REMARKS
<b>✦ MOBILITY</b>	Mobility key condition for internationalisation: Both students and teachers VET/Staff.
<b>✦ VET PROGRAMMES &amp; CURRICULA INTERNATIONALISATION</b>	Development of VET programmes and skills to prepare graduates for professions in international contexts, as a core driver to design and inspire new curricula.
<b>✦ POLICY LEARNING vs. TRANSFER of VET MODELS.</b>	Knowledge transfer examples from EU MSs (Germany, Austria, Belgium, etc.) and international (Australia, Canada, Singapore, Switzerland, etc.). International partners and donors action.
<b>✦ INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION, PARTNERSHIPS &amp; NETWORKING</b>	Common EU tools – transparency (e.g. EQF); Erasmus (+): cooperation and mobility. Participation in international networks (e.g ENE) Learning by doing – knowledge co-creation and peer learning,
<b>✦ TEACHERS' CONTINUOUS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT</b>	Teachers' international experience (e.g. via projects): Incentive for professional learning and career development pathways.

## **BOX1. VET Law in Ukraine (Article 32): Centre of Professional Excellence**

- 1).** A vocational education institution (association of vocational education institutions), regardless of the form of ownership, may acquire the status of a centre of professional excellence to promote the development of certain sectors of the economy according to the model of combining educational, research and innovation activities, cooperation and partnership with employers, investors and other interested persons, participation in the implementation of national and international projects and programs.
- 2).** Information on the status of the centre of professional excellence may be contained in the name of the vocational education institution.
- 3).** Granting or depriving a vocational education institution (association of vocational education institutions) of the status of a centre of professional excellence shall be carried out by the central executive body in the field of education and science.
- 4).** The regulations on the centre of professional excellence, the procedure for granting and depriving a vocational education institution of the status of a centre of professional excellence shall be approved by the central body of executive power in the field of education and science.
- 5).** The program of activity of the centre of professional excellence may be financed during the first five years of its activity at the expense of the state budget.

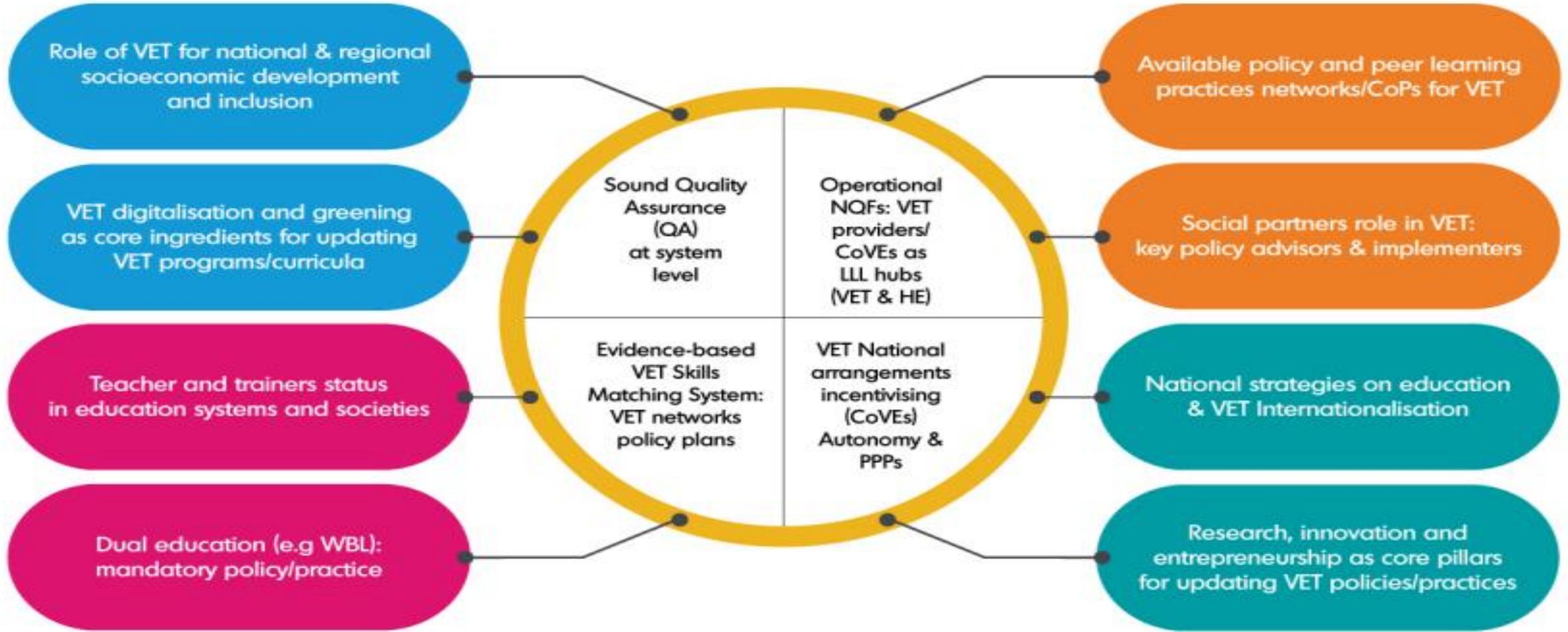
# DISCUSSING HANDS-ON ESTRATEGIC APPROCH TO SETTING UP CoVEs in UKRANIAN REGIONS

## TEMPLATE TO GUIDE ON DISCUSSING STRATEGY TO SET UP CoVEs in UKRAINE

- ✳ Discuss on the **meaning of status** (according to article 32 of Ukrainian VET law). It might be useful if you focus on criteria for granting such status (e.g dimensions that will help CoVEs to sustain status in the short to medium-sized long term).
- ✳ **Strategic institutional approaches** (e.g vision, mission, values, transparency, communication and marketing policies, etc.).
- ✳ **Governance/management, (autonomy model), funding and quality assurance (Q.A)** principles/practices (etc.).
- ✳ **Shaping skills ecosystem:** Partnerships and arrangements (e.g type of partners to be engaged -and how-); Outcomes of arrangements (e.g work-based learning, technology transfer, applied research, etc.)
- ✳ **Sectors and occupations** in focus are linked to excellence *dimensions* to be integrated into **curricula and qualifications** (e.g ISCED levels covered).
- ✳ **Teaching and learning methods/tools** to foster systematically *learner-centered approaches*.
- ✳ **Strengthening internationalization** (e.g vision, project areas, target groups etc.).
- ✳ **Other type of CoVEs services** (e.g adult learning, consultancy, research, technology diffusion, etc.,).
- ✳ **Tools to be used** (e.g key 2-3 ISATCOVE, KPIs, management plans, regional strategies, skills and labour market identification/matching tools, etc.) and **key capacities to be improved** (e.g short *wishes list*).

# Systemic *Building Blocks* for VET Excellence & CoVEs to shape local and international ecosystems

## KEY BUILDING BLOCKS FOR SPEEDING UP VET EXCELLENCE POLICY FRAMEWORKS AND CoVEs RECOGNITION/STATUS



**...LET'S EXCEL TOGETHER...  
THANK YOU VERY MUCH !**

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<https://www.etf.europa.eu/en/projects-campaigns/projects/vocational-excellence> | ETF (europa.eu)

<https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=1501>

**Open Space:**

**Setting Up the new ETF Network for Excellence (ENE) | Open Space (europa.eu)**

- **Europa Website on CoVE:**  
<https://ec.europa.eu/social/vocational-excellence>
- **The Erasmus+ programme**  
[https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/node\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/node_en)
- **Functional mailbox for all questions related to CoVE calls:**  
[EACEA-EPLUS-VET@ec.europa.eu](mailto:EACEA-EPLUS-VET@ec.europa.eu)
- **Applying for Erasmus+ CoVE funding in the Funding & Tenders Opportunities Portal (FTOP)**  
<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/erasmus-edu-2022-pex-cove>

***CoVEs are not a one-size-fits-all model, but rather a flexible and adaptable concept that can be tailored to the specific needs, priorities and resources of each country and sector(s). Overall, CoVEs ensure quality and relevance of VET skills, as well as foster regional development and innovation. CoVEs are a promising and innovative approach for VET. However, they also entail significant efforts and responsibilities for the VET providers and their partners. CoVEs are not a quick fix or a simple solution, but a long-term and strategic investment that requires building capacities on VET communities towards Excellence ; strong political will (a clear policy framework), and a collaborative culture among all the relevant actors in the Skills Ecosystem (ETF 2025)***