

BUILDING MORE INCLUSIVE VET SYSTEMS ACROSS EUROPE

Building on previous EVTA Community MeetUps implemented in past work programmes, this format continues to provide a space for exchange and engagement among EVTA members, partners, and other vocational education and training (VET) stakeholders. Within the EVTA-NEXt annual work programme, the Community MeetUps are organised as a series of online sessions throughout the year, addressing topics of relevance to the VET community and combining expert input with interactive discussion. The upcoming Community MeetUp will focus on *Building More Inclusive VET Systems Across Europe*, highlighting the importance of ensuring that vocational education and training is accessible, equitable, and responsive to the diverse needs of learners.

Inclusion is a central priority within European education and training policies. Across Europe, learners continue to face barriers that may limit their participation in education and training, including socio-economic disadvantage, disability, geographical isolation, migration backgrounds, gender stereotypes, and wellbeing-related challenges. Addressing these barriers is essential not only to ensure equal opportunities but also to support social cohesion, active citizenship, and sustainable economic development.

The European Education Area promotes inclusive and high-quality education and training systems that enable all learners to reach their full potential. Similarly, the Council Recommendation on vocational education and training (2020) highlights the importance of making VET more flexible, inclusive, and accessible, particularly for learners at risk of exclusion. More recently, the Union of Skills has reinforced the need to widen participation in education and training and ensure that all individuals can benefit from learning opportunities throughout their lives.

Within the VET sector, inclusion can take many forms, from supporting learners facing economic or social disadvantages to promoting gender balance, accessibility, learner wellbeing, and engagement. As VET providers respond to increasingly diverse learner profiles, there is a growing need to exchange experiences and identify effective approaches that help remove barriers to participation and success.

The EVTA Community MeetUp on Building More Inclusive VET Systems Across Europe provides a space for VET practitioners, providers, policymakers, and stakeholders to share initiatives and practices that contribute to more inclusive learning environments and pathways. Through presentations and discussion, participants will explore how different organisations are addressing barriers to participation and supporting learners from diverse backgrounds.

The objectives of the Community MeetUp are to:

- Explore current challenges and opportunities related to inclusion within VET systems across Europe.
- Share practices and initiatives that support learners facing barriers to participation in education and training.
- Exchange approaches to promoting accessibility, wellbeing, learner engagement, and equal opportunities.
- Highlight measures that contribute to greater diversity and inclusion within VET pathways and learning environments.
- Foster dialogue and peer learning among VET stakeholders on creating more inclusive education and training systems.

Council of the European Union. (2020). Council Recommendation of 24 November 2020 on vocational education and training (VET) for sustainable competitiveness, social fairness and resilience (2020/C 417/01). Official Journal of the European Union.

European Commission. (n.d.). European Education Area. <https://education.ec.europa.eu/>

European Commission. (2025). Union of Skills. <https://education.ec.europa.eu/>

European Commission. (2021). European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan. Brussels.



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June 30th, 11:00-12:30 CEST, online via Zoom

AGENDA

11:00–11:10	Welcome and introduction Setting the Scene: needs and expectations Sergio Expósito Cabrera, EU Communication & Project Officer at EVTA
11:10 – 12:25	How VET Can Support Inclusive Education and Employment Pathways for People with Disabilities Clara Massé, Junior Policy Officer at EASPD
	Community Micro-Integration Through VET: Insights from the CREFOP Experience Andra Motreanu, Coordinator, Project Development and Consulting Department at CREFOP
	Personalised Guidance and Outreach for More Inclusive Learning Pathways Genny Gallinari, Class Tutor at Fondazione ENAIP Don Agostini Claudia Tua, Coordinator at Fondazione ENAIP Don Agostini
	SupportSphere: A Circle of Support for Every Learner Pedro Fuentes Tirado, Administrative and Project Officer at EVTA
12:25–12:30	Q&A Wrap Up & Final Conclusions Sergio Expósito Cabrera, EU Communication & Project Officer at EVTA

