



ANNUAL CONFERENCE

14-15 MARCH 2019

(PRE-CONFERENCE ON 13 MARCH)

COMO, ITALY

MAKING THE EUROPEAN LEVEL 5 AREA A REALITY

THE PROGRAMME

A CALL FOR YOUR GOOD PRACTICE, PERFECT EXAMPLE, CREATIVE IDEA...

THEMATIC TEAMS AND LEADING EXPERTS

➤ **Introduction**

After the first newsletters about the upcoming Annual Conference, especially with a general overview of the event in Como in March next year, we want to raise the following issues in this issue:

- Pre-conference programme, General Assembly, the Conference and 'the after session for experts and thematic teams'
- Practical information and 'How to register for the conference'.

And in the annex:

- Information about the workshops and the round-table sessions, with some instructions for how you can pass on your contribution to us.

Feel free to ask us questions about the conference. And of course we will welcome you in Como, to meet your colleagues.

➤ **Information about the programme**

Here below you will find the information for the three days included in the program in Como. In the following newsletters we will give additional information, partly on the basis of the applications for the workshops and the round-table sessions.

Pre-conference programme 13 March

- Wednesday 13 March – from 10:00 till 16:30
- Visiting Level 5 Colleges in the Como region
- Cultural activity in the afternoon
- Including coffee breaks and lunch
- Registration: See at the end, together with the registration for the conference
- Pick-up by bus from the venue of Cometa, and then there will be two pick-up places in Como.

Thursday morning 14 March

09:30 – 10:30 Board Meeting of CHAIN5 + guests

11:00 – 12:00 General Assembly of CHAIN5 – for members and others who are interested in the activities and the work of CHAIN5 and what we have done so far

Thursday afternoon 14 March

12:00 – 13:00 Lunch buffet + registration (already possible from 9:00)

13:00 – 13:50 Opening session - welcome

13:50 – 14:30 Keynote – The Future of the European Level 5 Area & the role of CHAIN5

14:30 – 14:45 Short pitches about national challenges, looking at the National Level 5 Area

14:45 – 15:10 Coffee break

15:10 – 16:10 Round 1 – workshops

16:15 – 17:15 Round 2 – workshops

19:00 – 22:30 Dinner in Como – by bus to the restaurant from the venue, having also pick-up places in the centre

Friday 15 March

08:15 – 09:00 Registration second day

09:00 – 09:30 Keynote – about Level 5 and the world of work

09:30 – 09:40 Information about the workshops and the sessions – the aims...

09:40 – 10:40 Round 3 – workshops

10:40 – 11:10 Coffee break

11:10 – 11:40 Roundtable sessions – round 1

11:45 – 12:15 Roundtable sessions – round 2

12:20 – 12:45 Plenary session for an inventory of the outcomes of the sessions

12:45 – 13:30 Lunch buffet

13.35 – 14:05 Plenary session – identifying the most relevant themes for the EL5A – and for CHAIN5

14:05 – 14:20 Presentation by the rapporteur... reflections...

14:20 – 14:30 Closing of the conference – announcement of the next events (annual conference in 2020 and a seminar in November 2019)

'After session':

14:45 – 15:30 Session with participants interested in taking part in the thematic teams – presentation of a work-programme – and a follow-up for the team-leaders...

➤ **Practical information**

1. Venue: Premises of Cometa, Como, Italy - website of Cometa: www.puntocometa.org
Google Maps:
<https://www.google.nl/maps/place/Associazione+Cometa/@45.7906606,9.0780098,14z/data=!4m5!3m4!1s0x47869c2211b0a0c3:0x75cdc891dbba46e9!8m2!3d45.7906602!4d9.0955193>
2. There are enough hotels and apartments in Como, near Cometa and in the centre. We will take care for making arrangements with hotels – to be mentioned in the next newsletter.
But of course participants can also book a room themselves by using booking.com or other websites.
3. Costs for you (excl. VAT):
 - Conference fee: The fee for the seminar is based on the country of the participant:
 - Italy, United Kingdom, France, Denmark, Austria, Germany, Switzerland, Norway, Malta, Sweden, Finland, The Netherlands and other countries in the Western and Northern part of Europe, not mentioned below:
175 Euro
 - Estonia, Latvia, Greece, Poland, Russia, Lithuania, Slovakia, Portugal, Czech Republic, and other countries in the Eastern or Southern part of Europe, not mentioned below:
125 Euro
 - Kosovo, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Bulgaria, Romania, Turkey and other countries not mentioned above:
90 Euro.
 - Dinner incl. drinks: 45 euro
 - Social programme: 40 euro
4. Transport
 - The best way to come to Como is to fly to one of the airports of Milan
 - From there there is public transport to Como
 - In the next newsletter we will provide more information about this.

HOW TO REGISTER

Interested?

If you are interested in participating in the Annual Conference, you can now register for this event. Our advice is not to wait too long, and then also take action to arrange the trip and a hotel or apartment in Como.

CHAIN5 consists of more than 250 members from 31 countries. The conference in Como is a great opportunity to meet other members and experts - and to share our communal interest on education at level 5.

Send an e-mail to info@leido.nl with the following information:

- Name
- Organisation
- Country
- Position
- E-mail address
- Participation in the pre-conference (13 March): yes / no
- Dinner: yes / no (if yes, indicate if you have special dietary requirements).

Annex: Our Call

Workshops and round-table sessions – if you want to contribute

CHAIN5 is now a large community, having members coming from many different countries in Europe (and even outside Europe). Therefore we would love to hear your practices related to developments in the Level 5 Area. Come and share your story and meet fellow Level 5 enthusiasts – to give a push to the next phase of our community.

We're looking for contributors for the workshops and round-table sessions. A theme can be broad on any subject you are interested in and which you think is worth sharing it with the participants.

Using workshops and sessions for the conference theme

As we have indicated in the previous newsletters, the main goal of the conference is to consider together how to fulfill the aim for having more attention for the European Level 5 Area (EL5A) as a whole. This concerns all types of qualifications at level 5 of the EQF and the associated national frameworks. There can be also different formats, from purely school-based education to an approach where the workplace is the central element, in a form of dual education. The providers can also differ, with formal and non-formal training. Moreover, the size may differ (expressed in study load), but all qualifications have in common that they are linked to level 5 in a transparent manner, using a recognized procedure.

Having this in mind, we can use the conference to identify themes (topics) that are relevant for this EL5A. and also crucial for the implementation for an effective National L5A in member states and other countries. And the themes are also necessary to keep such a NL5A 'alive and kicking' in the future, for students, adult learners, employers and all other target groups.

In the previous newsletters we have given a number of examples of themes that now play and may lend themselves to our community of practice. But... feel free to contribute to a different theme to see if attention is paid to the same issues in several countries and within other organizations!

Themes:

- Level 5 and (benchmarking of) curricula at this level
- Level 5 and work-based learning
- Level 5 and the pressure up for having more education at a higher level
- Level 5 and permeability between VET and HE
- Level 5 and the role of (the management of) 'level 5 colleges'
- Level 5 and quality assurance by using qualifications for flexible learning pathways
- Level 5 and the role of employers in the provision of programmes
- Level 5 and 'lifelong learning'
- Level 5 and international qualifications
- Level 5 and 'Business Academies'.

And sub-themes can be:

- Clarity in the distinction between providers, qualifications and design (think of HVET and SCHE, and business diploma and qualifications for work-related training)
- System for linking learning outcomes, study units and credits at level 5
- Internationalization at level 5: what is important for institutions
- Designing of training programmes based on various forms for Work-Based Learning
- Cooperation between institutions at levels 4, 5 and 6
- Cooperation with the (regional) world of work
- Role of the government when using level 5 for a LLL approach
- Management, leadership and quality assurance
- Role of the National Qualifications Framework (and non-formal qualifications).

Workshops

During the conference we have three rounds in which workshops can be provided. A room for each workshop will be available, with the necessary facilities. For a workshop you have 60 minutes.

Using the idea that we want to attune workshops accordingly to our aims to start a process for the EL5A, also to be seen as a bridge between the sectors for VET and HE, we think that when setting

up a workshop the following elements can be included. It is not a format that should be used, because we will leave the practical approach to those who take care of the workshop. But we would like to see that at the end it is clear whether or not the subject lends itself to CHAIN5 when it comes to introducing it into the community of practice in the coming years.

So we would like to propose a number of elements in the set-up of the workshop:

1. Indicate what the subject (theme, topic, development, approach...) is that you will present in the workshop and give a brief outline of which types of qualifications in the national system appear on 5 and are formally recognized as such.
2. Explain why your topic is important for the national system as a whole.
3. Provide some information about why this topic of the workshop is essential for the qualifications at level 5 in your country of region, and which parties are involved, and possibly also which preconditions are relevant to come to a well-functioning and flexible National L5A, using such a subject.
4. Have an inventory at the end if it is about having recommendations for a discussion on this subject at the international level, so what do you think is usable in other countries and what expertise can be transferred from your own country or organization in the coming years (can it be an international theme, starting a working group, having more workshops and seminars, organized in regions where we can see a great need for more information and support).

A workshop takes 60 minutes. It means that there is room for discussion and reflection of the participants on the subject. One can indicate what is happening in other countries and regions and whether or not it is a subject that deserves further attention in CHAIN5. This can be used for point 4 as mentioned above.

Round-table sessions

Because such a session lasts 30 minutes and takes place in a small group at a table in the plenary room, a possible approach is as follows:

1. It is about a sub-theme, i.e. a subject that has a specific approach, and may possibly be grouped under a general theme. From those who lead the session, it can be clearly indicated that it is a practical approach. This means that practical matters can be highlighted.
2. It is more than giving a workshop a form of providing information about how this approach is of particular interest in offering qualifications at level 5 for multiple purposes. An explanation is given of the results that have been achieved.
3. Then there is time for questions about the subject, especially aimed at that approach. It can also be about the so-called critical success factors.

At the end, the person(s) who led the session may ask the participants whether they consider this subject and the approach also interesting for use within their own situation.

How to contribute?

If you would like to contribute to the conference through a presentation, a workshop or a session in a small group, you can send by e-mail (info@leido.nl) a short document, mentioning:

- Theme / Topic / Development / Issue – to be shared with the participants in the conference
- Format: workshop / round-table session
- Short description of the most important aspects of the theme/topic if it is about the role of you and your organisation
- Relationship with developments around level 5 (see the text here above, about the overall purpose of the conferences)
- Aspects that lend themselves to further discussions at an international level, as you will suggest in Como

We are looking forward to see you in Como, sharing your experiences with the other participants and to invest together in the future of CHAIN5 as the international community of practice for level 5 – in its broadest sense.