Dear CHAIN5 member,

In the most recent newsletter we have already informed you about our plans for an international conference in Malta on 9-10 December on ‘flexible pathways at levels 5 and higher’. Hereby you receive information and the first newsletter about this event organized by EfVET and CHAIN5.

Best regards,

On behalf of the Board of CHAIN5,

Hans Daale

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Exploring the Challenges of Permeability: EQF-5 and Higher Levels

A PARTNERS CONFERENCE

Paving the way for flexible learning pathways and the role of the labour market

9 –10 December 2019

MCAST, MALTA

Dear Sir/Madam,

Attached please find the newsletter about the international conference that will be organized this year in Malta on December 9 and 10  in collaboration with EfVET ([www.efvet.org](http://www.efvet.org/)) and CHAIN5 ([www.chain5.net](http://www.chain5.net/)), supported by Malta’s [Ministry of Education and Employment](https://education.gov.mt/en/Pages/educ.aspx). Given your expertise in the field of higher education, it is our distinct pleasure to invite you to attend the Partner’s Conference about *Exploring the Challenges of Permeability: EQF-5 and Higher Levels.*

This conference will offer participants a unique opportunity to discuss the situation in Europe about the two parallel sectors for levels 5 and a higher level of the EQF. This includes the four cycles of the EHEA - SCHE, Bachelor, Master and Doctorate. Keeping into perspective the labour market, we shall also examine other qualifications that build on the VET sector, also referred to as Higher VET or Vocational-Professional Education. Some countries are familiar with both sectors and some only with the qualifications of the EHEA. Sometimes SCHE and HVET coexist, at level 5. In addition, there are also the non-formal qualifications that are aimed at professional and personal development and are also linked to a level of a NQF.

In order to be able to ‘translate’ these developments with the formal qualifications at levels 5 and higher into possibilities for flexible learning pathways, permeability and building ‘bridges’ between the two sectors, we aim to examine opportunities that allow the collaboration of both sectors with different organisations and to strive to improve what already exists.

Taking into account your interest and expertise in this field of work, we hope to welcome you at the venue of this event in **Malta on December 9-10, 2019.**

The main objective of this conference is to understand the challenges and move towards a common European agreement on the use of Level 5 qualifications in an route of any qualifications framework and to discuss a way forward and share relevant and useful information between us.

More information will be disseminated in the coming weeks, along with the details about the registration, the workshops and possible contributions from your side.

If you have any questions about the conference, do not hesitate to contact us on info@chain5.net.