



Level 5: now and in the future an overview...

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Framework for this presentation

- ▶ Looking at level 5
- ▶ As part of the whole tertiary sector (5 and above)
- ▶ Having its own European Level 5 Area
- ▶ Starting a process for VET at 5 and above


What happened after 2013...

First: Higher Education

- ▶ Advocating for the Short Cycle Higher Education:
Short Cycle / First Cycle / Second cycle / Third Cycle
? / Bachelor / Master / Doctorate - PhD
A 'degree' in the European Higher Education Area (EHEA - Bologna Process)
- ▶ SCHE is important and relevant in countries having a binary system in HE
Orientation: Professional / Academic
SCHE mostly in Professional Higher Education (90 - 120 EC)

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- ▶ Short Cycle: adopted in 2018 by the ministers responsible for HE as a full recognised/stand-alone cycle within the EHEA
 - But not obligatory for the members in the Bologna Process
 - But still not always accepted by Higher Education Institutions...

 - ▶ Next steps?
 - common name: Associate
 - having mentioned in the diploma supplement a structure with 4 cycles
 - progression from Short Cycle to First Cycle
 - international collaboration (joint degrees, Erasmus+ projects...)


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- ▶ Important: Transparency in offering Short Cycle HE (according to the criteria)
 - use of the Dublin Descriptors (DDs)
 - credits (EC)
 - standards and guidelines for Quality Assurance
 - diploma supplement
 - progression to the first cycle


The same set of criteria as needed in the EHEA for the other cycles (degrees)


- ▶ BUT...
- ▶ It is not about the institution, offering SCHE programmes
- ▶ HEI - SCHE and also offering level 6 (first cycle)
- ▶ College - just offering level 5 (SCHE) - having agreements with HEIs offering level 6 (first cycle)
- ▶ College - offering VET + SCHE = two departments with their own status
- ▶ And so on...

Second: VET at higher levels


- ▶ VET in Europe is very diversified sector... keep that in mind
- ▶ VE and T (formal, non-formal / public-financed, private / Colleges, Business Academies...)
- ▶ In the European context: highest VET level is number 4 of the EQF (entry level for HE)

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- ▶ But: There are also qualifications offered by VET Institutions at level 5 and higher levels
 - ▶ But: what can be the status of those qualifications (Europe / national)?
 - ▶ So far: They are considered as programmes under the banner of ‘Higher VET’

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- ▶ OK... but it will be better to have another name... to emphasize the status and the orientation (don't compete with the EHEA):
 - ▶ Idea...? Suggestion...?
 - Higher Vocational-Professional Education (HPVE)
 - HVPE-A / HVPE-B / HVPE-C / HVPE-D
(or do we need also international common names?)

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- ▶ The attention for this type of qualifications is growing very fast:
 - the need for the labour market
 - pushed by the social partners
 - looking at lifelong learning (ministries)
 - progression from VET to HE (HPE...)

 - ▶ Recent plans and actions at the EU level:
 - Pact for Skills
 - Osnabruck Declaration
 - Recommendations for the VET sector

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- ▶ Question: Can we use this momentum for:
 - having a process for HVPE?
 - formulating criteria for those qualifications?
 - the need for a ‘European HVPE Area’?
 - ▶ But also having attention for the whole system (tertiary):
 - HE (professional and academic)
 - HVPE
 - Business Training and Education (non-formal, private...)
 - ▶ And can we as CHAIN5 help by having a European Level 5 Area?
 - SCHE / HVPE-A / Business Diplomas and Certificates

All together... joining forces

European Education Area (incl. Training)

- ▶ Time for action... yes, that's for sure!
- ▶ And we have the 'instrument' for this!
- ▶ The European Commission wants to have:
 - all sectors combined
 - taking care of learning pathways
 - using formal and non-formal qualifications
 - taking care of the use of Recognition and Validation of Prior Learning
 - making LLL possible for everyone
 - using 'micro-credentials' in a fast changing world of work...

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- ▶ The instrument is **the European Education (and Training) Area**
 - a process for 2021-2025
 - including European Universities
 - Including Centres of Vocational Excellence (HVPE)

WFCP

- ▶ Last but not least...
- ▶ Membership of the World Federation of Colleges and Polytechnics
- ▶ This year the set-up of a:
European Network of Colleges and Polytechnics
(England, Wales, Switzerland, Basque Country, CHAIN5...)
- ▶ Conference in November 2021