



EUNEC conference

9-10 November 2006
Vlaamse Onderwijsraad
Brussels

'MoVE-iT: Obstacles to Mobility in VET'

First announcement

EUNEC is the **European Network of Education Councils**. Its members advise the governments of their countries on education and training. EUNEC aims to discuss the findings and recommendations of all European projects in education and training, to determine standpoints and to formulate statements on these issues. EUNEC wants to disseminate these statements pro-actively towards the European Commission, relevant DGs and other actors at European level, and to promote action by EUNEC's members and participants at national level. EUNEC also has the objective that the councils should put internationalisation, mobility and Europeanization high on the national agenda, that they should recommend and support a European policy in education and training towards all relevant stakeholders: ministry of education (and employment), sectoral and branch organisations, providers and other actors.

Theme of the conference

Mobility of persons is in the heart of the European project and more particularly of the issues that are linked to the Lisbon objectives for 2010. In education and in the initial and continuing vocational training mobility has become a very important theme.

By using the **open method of coordination**, a lot of running projects are linked with mobility: EQF, ECTS, ECVET, Europass... However, in actual practice there still exist a lot of **obstacles** to this mobility. Therefore, the European Commission and the European Parliament have set up a large study project with three parts: a study on the feasibility of ECVET (ECVET reflection), a study on the implementation of ECVET (ECVET connexion) and a study on the obstacles to mobility (MoVE-iT). You can find more information on www.ecvet.net.

EUNEC was invited by the contractors of the **MoVE-iT** study to participate in their reflection and to make its own recommendations on the issue of obstacles to mobility. The study on obstacles to mobility in VET is awarded to **PricewaterhouseCoopers**. They will carry out this study together with **CINOP** (Centre for innovation and training – 's-Hertogenbosch, The Netherlands). The general objective is to conduct an in-depth study into initial vocational-training methods across Europe (Member States, EEA countries, the candidate and pre-accession countries), focusing on mobility. The aim of the study is to identify the obstacles at this level which prevent or stand in the way of mobility to

improve workskills becoming more widespread, and to suggest practical solutions which could overcome these obstacles. Once completed, the study's results need to be circulated and evaluated. The project got the official title 'MoVE-iT' (<http://room.projectcoordinator.net/projectweb/435bc339b0795/Index.html>)

The objective of the **cooperation with EUNEC** is that EUNEC should provide some critical remarks and statements on the recommendations of the study and that the network should help to disseminate the final results and solutions.

This is a **very important** step in the history of EUNEC. The contractors of the study are really searching for a platform where they can debate and discuss their findings. This way, EUNEC will be involved in an **early stage of policy making** and will participate actively in the development of a European policy on mobility in VET. This way, EUNEC can participate actively in the development of a European policy on mobility in VET. It is also the intention that the participating education councils should design well-considered steps or a national/regional action plan for the promotion of mobility in vocational education and training.

All **participants** will receive the country reports, the conclusions of the study, the preparatory tasks and all practical information during the month of October.

In February 2007, the conclusions of the three ECVET studies will be presented to a wider public.

On the next page, you will find the provisional **programme** of the conference.

Registration

As a member of EUNEC, your council can participate **free** in this meeting in Brussels. Thanks to the support of the MoVE-iT team, we have the opportunity to pay the expenses (travel, accommodation(2nights), subsistence) for **one** participant of your council. On the registration form, you will find the conditions for reimbursement. Attention please, we can only reimburse a low cost flight.

We would like to ask you to answer at last on **September the 27th**. Therefore, you have to fax or mail the registration form to the EUNEC secretariat.

We hope you will accept our invitation so we will have the pleasure of meeting you in Brussels November the 9th and 10th.

Provisional programme

Thursday 9 November 2006

Venue of the participants - check-in in the hotel – welcome in the premises of the Vlaamse Onderwijsraad

- 18.30 Introduction to the conference**
'Obstacles to mobility' in the context of the European education and training policy
- 19.30 Presentation of the EUNEC annual plan 2007**
- 20.15 Conference diner**

Friday 10 November 2006

- 09.30 Opening of the conference**
Simone Barthel, EUNEC president
- 09.45 Presentation of the study 'Obstacles to mobility'**
Reinout van Brakel, Pricewaterhouse Coopers
Jannie Roemeling, CINOP
- 10.30 Subgroup working**
An exploration of the obstacles to mobility in the EUNEC member countries. The secretariat will provide a preparatory assignment for the participants. The participants will also receive the official MoVE-iT report of their own country.
- 11.30 Plenum + discussion**
- 12.15 Lunch**
- 13.45 Editing of the official EUNEC statements**
The participants will receive in advance a survey of the results of the MoVE-iT study. The study will also formulate some recommendations and solutions. We have the intention to formulate official EUNEC comments on the proposed recommendations and solutions.
- 16.00 End of the conference**