



European cooperation on Vocational Education and Training (VET)

-

presentation for the
**First Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM) of the
EU and Central Asia Ministers for Education meeting**

27 May 2015, Brussels, Belgium

Joao SANTOS, Acting Head of Unit
Directorate General for Employment Social Affairs and Inclusion
Unit C5, Vocational training and Adult education

Vocational education and training





Initial VET

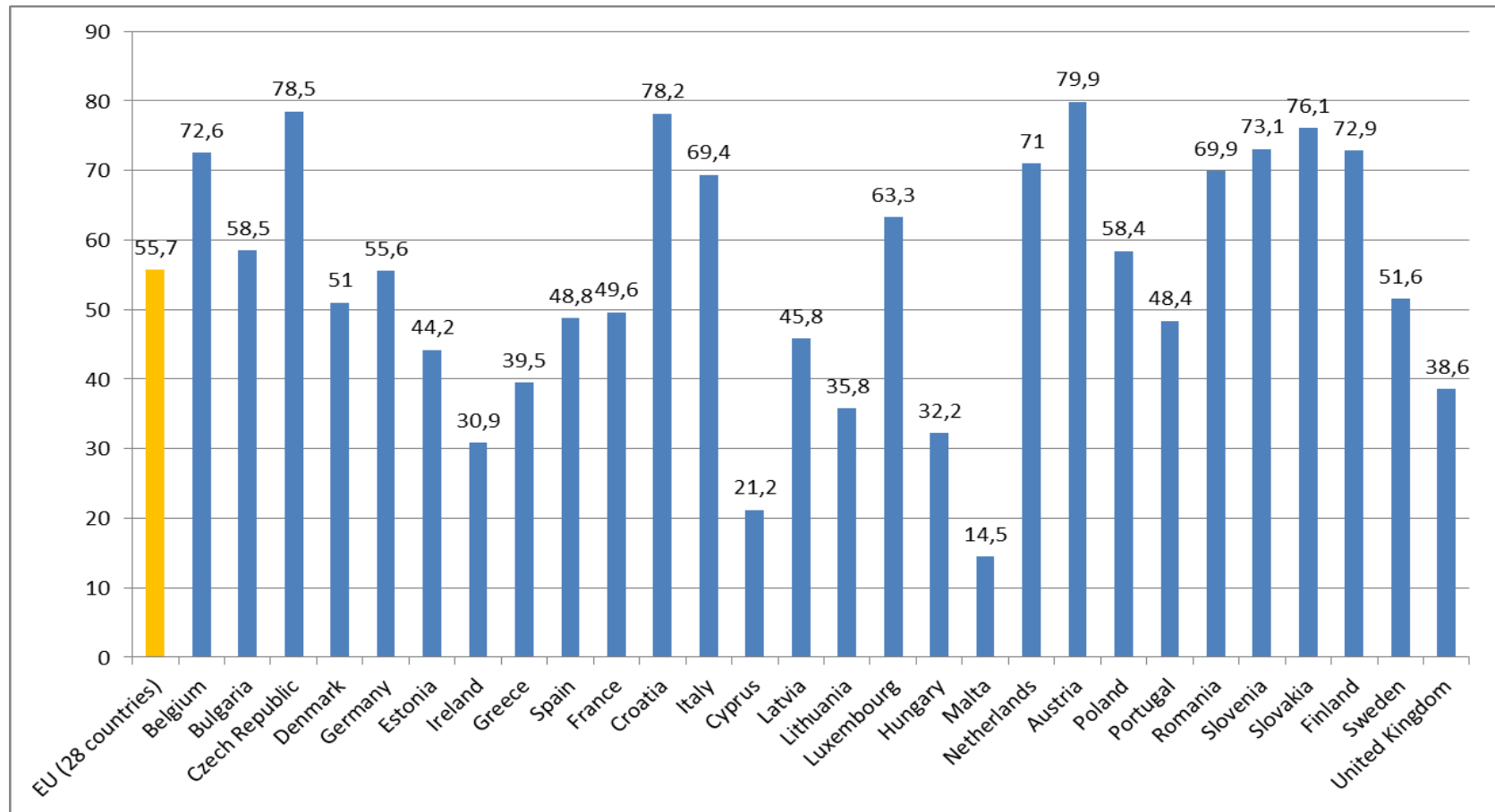
- typically at upper secondary level
- age between 15 and 19
- Around 50% of students in upper secondary education

Continuous VET

- labour market oriented training for adults
- learning after initial education/entry into working life
- formal/non-formal



Participation levels in VET



Students enrolled in vocational upper secondary education, 2012, as a % of all students enrolled in upper secondary education (ISCED level 3)



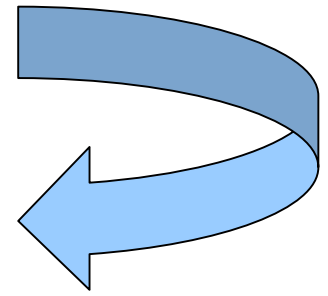
Increased pressure on VET to respond to labour market needs and increase employability

- *48% of jobs in 2020 will require **medium level** qualifications (mostly vocational)*
- *Ageing population – active ageing*
- *Skills for jobs and lifelong employability*
- *Address skills mismatch*
- *Apprenticeships underused*
- *Low **attractiveness of VET***

The crisis has
brought attention
to VET!



Copenhagen process launched in 2002



**2010 Bruges Communiqué
(VET modernisation agenda - 2011-2020)**

Strategic vision for VET until 2020

11 Long-term strategic objectives for 2020

**Short term
deliverables
for 2011-2014**

**2015 Review
New set of medium-
term deliverables
for 2015-2020**



VET
deliverables
2015-2020
*(Implementation at
national level)*



Work-based learning in all its forms (including Apprenticeships)



Quality assurance, feedback loop between LM outcomes and VET provision



Access to training and qualifications for all in a LLL perspective (**C-VET**)



Strengthen **key competences** in both I- and C-VET



Professional development of **VET teachers, trainers and mentors**

2015 Review of VET EU level action



Build **country specific expertise** to support implementing reforms

Monitoring and analysis of progress in VET

Boosting **European Alliance for Apprenticeships**

Develop and implement **Quality Assurance** (EQAVET) and **Credit systems** (ECVET)

Ensuring **coherence and synergy of EU tools**

Support of **mobility of VET learners and staff** (Erasmus+)

Communication and visibility of the Copenhagen process

**VET policy
implementation**

**EU level
support**



Overall objective:

- Strong **impulse to the VET reform agenda.**
- Bring together high level **stakeholders**, including the Commissioner, Ministers in charge of VET, Social partners, and VET providers

Main outputs of event:

- 1) Endorsement of the "**Riga Conclusions**" agreeing on the priorities to modernise VET and focus action in the period 2015-2020
- 2) Boost the **European Alliance for Apprenticeships (EAfA)**, taking stock of progress since its launch in 2013, and mobilising companies (in particular SME's) to increase apprenticeship opportunities.