EfVET Workshops online2020
WORKSHOP 5: Post-COVID-19 – the Education & Training roadmap to normality

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The Workshop about “Post-COVID-19 – the Education & Training roadmap to normality” registered about 20 participants in total, split in two different sessions. In the first session 12 participants and the second one 7 participant took part. Because of the ideal group size, the workshops were organised as a quality knowledge experiences sharing about the post-covid situation.

The two moderators started the workshop with an introduction of the theme. They summarised the meaning of „roadmap to normality” like this: “The Roadmap to normality describes how the COVID-19 restrictions will be lifted. Many countries are setting out their own individual guidelines and roadmaps regarding this matter. In many ways we are seeing an acceleration of the nascent changes that already existed. Online learning, for instance, previously a key point within a college’s 2 to 3 year roadmap has now become an integral delivery mechanism for courses currently taking place.”

In the workshop, the participants looked for the answer the following three questions:

1. Will international students continue to study remotely for the foreseeable future?
2. Do you think students will consider vocational educational training through this new medium, including the quality of their online instruction?
3. What are the benefits of doing mobilities Nationally and Internationally within the current situation and for the future of student mobility?

The message of the participants are as follows:

1. **Online education in VET is not fit for all** – the participants of both workshops were agreed that the online education is not fit for all. The “low level” VET students faced the biggest challenges. The lack of quality digital content and the heavy needs of manual work are the biggest issues of the teaching/learning process in this level of VET education. The manual work is not transfer into the virtual environment and not substitute with digital content. Blended or technology enhanced learning perfectly fit for the higher VET but not for all.
2. **Virtual mobility, blended mobility, e-move** - there is no working practice of how the physical mobility is substitute with any alternative solutions. Virtual and blended mobility is fit for the university students but not for all.

3. **There is no way going back** – COVID-19 is not just about the inextricable difficulties but significant opportunities for teaching and learning. Because of the necessity of remote teaching, the VET education had to take a giant leap. The VET system has to keep the digital achievements of the first remote teaching period.

4. **Quality of digital education** – quality digital teaching is not just about the infrastructure, but the complex system of different mutually dependent areas, like
   - leadership and digital strategy of the school;
   - Infrastructure and equipment of course;
   - digital learning competence of the students;
   - digital teaching competences of the teachers/trainers;
   - continuous professional development of the teachers;
   - implementation of digital tools, content, OER in the classroom teaching and home learning;
   - digitally enhanced assessment practices;
   - network learning, collaboration & knowledge sharing;
   - supporting system, and accessibility of digital educational resources.

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