

SMART - COMET

Study visit report and focus group meeting notes

A study visit as a part of SMART – COMET Project was held in İstanbul, Turkey, consisting of a series of visits, interviews and meetings between the dates of 13th and 18th of March, 2018. The visit covers both Component 1 and Component 2 of SMART-COMET Project.

Participants:

Name	Surname	Institution Name	Job Position	
José Miguel	Soler del Río	Centro Integrado Uno	Principal of VET School	VET School
Alejandro	Berrocal Revilla	Centro Integrado Uno	Director of Academic Studies Department and Welding Professor	VET School
Patricia	Barroso Ruiz	IES Remedios	Apprenticeship Coordinator and Welding Professor	VET School
Alfredo	Quintana Cubero	IES Remedios	Director of Academic Studies Department and Welding Professor	VET School
Diana Maria	Balbás Polanco	Cisternas Cobo	HR Director	Private Company
Juan	Diego Lucas	Ministry of Education	VET and Lifelong Learning Unit Coordinator	Public Government
Antonio	Vega Omaña	Ministry of Education	Pedagogical Technical Adviser of Vet and LLP unit	Public Government
Karin	Volpato	FLM	R&D	VET Foundation
Carmen	De la Torriente Diez	FLM	General Manager	VET Foundation
Eren	Yenigün	MESS	External Affairs, Training and Projects Manager	Employers Association of Metal Industries
Müge	Yaman	MESS Training Foundation	Project Specialist	Foundation
Balkır	Özünü	Ministry of National Education	Expert of the Department of Social Partners and Projects	Public Government

During the visits, stakeholders of the Turkish vocational education and training system were shown to the participants. Organized by the Turkish Employers Association of Metal Industries (MESS); member enterprises of the association, both national and international companies were visited together with the VET schools in Turkey. The visit gave an opportunity to observe the required skills for relevant occupations and provide an understanding of managing the skills from VET schools to working life as a scope of life-long learning.

The competence model and it's applications on the field that based on European Qualification Framework and National Vocational Qualifications Authority has been observed during enterprise visits.

This organization also covered schools and enterprises that are engaged with partnerships as a part of the School and Enterprise Cooperation subtitle of METAD – Full Support to Vocational Education for Turkey Project of MESS, MoNE and MESS Training Foundation.

One of the best practices of dual system in terms of school and enterprise cooperation model has observed during visits.

A case about the School – Enterprise Cooperation, METAD (Full Support to Vocational Education for Turkey) was shared with the participants.

Institutions visited are listed above:

- Arçelik enterprise:
 - Production facilities
 - Arçelik Workshop 4.0 Applications and Experience Center
 - Arçelik Garage Research and Development Center
 - Competence management applications
- Denizyıldızları Vocational Education and Training High School
- Ford Otosan enterprise
 - Production facilities
 - Industry 4.0 applications
 - Competence management applications
- Gölcük Vocational Education and Training High School
- Bosch enterprise factory
 - TGA – Vocational Training Center
 - School and enterprise cooperation
 - Industry 4.0 application
- Hürriyet Vocational Education and Training High School
 - Ministry of National Education Regional Unit: presentation on Turkish VET system

The focus group meeting was organized at the end of the visits and the feedbacks of visitors are as follows;

- Visitors from Spain explained that they are pleasantly surprised about the fact that some serious investment is made on dual system in Turkey by Bosch enterprise and that it employs all the students included in their dual training program. Another positive observation from this dual training was the teachers' trainings in the Center and it also contributes the knowledge transfer from teachers to students.
- The number of "Erasmus+ projects" and both teachers and students including in Erasmus+ exchanges are found impressive by the participants. They said it is often hard for school administrations in Spain to find participants to be sent abroad for exchange projects. It becomes even harder for teachers to travel abroad for trainings and they first need to be convinced. Thus, possible cooperation models are discussed between schools from Spain and Turkey, and representatives of VET schools from Spain said they would be glad to host students coming from Turkey.
- Participants explained that the commitment from enterprises but also from VET schools to Industry 4.0 and its applications were also more impressive than they were

expecting.

- Hearing about Full Support to Vocational Education for Turkey (METAD) Project; visitors said the school-enterprise cooperation models in Spain tend to ignore the “gender equality” as an issue to be discussed although the number of female students is low rate in Spain as well. As a result, the number of women working in metal sector is also dramatically low, like it is in Turkey. Another issue they found important to take note about METAD Project was the industry 4.0 trainings and the fact that it has been underlined during career guidance seminars to students of VET schools.
- They asked the development plans of operators who have skills gap occurred during the transition from VET schools to enterprises. The explanation also given by the enterprises’ representatives; besides the school-enterprise cooperation model, enterprises are also investing money for the internal, on-the-job trainings.

