



Vocational mobility in Europe: analysing provision, take-up and impact and reflecting on the way ahead

we are



21st meeting of the ECVET Users' Group

Helsinki 8 March 2018

Rationale for study

State of play on the topic at EU level:

- Increasing size, resource investment and attention in the policy debate BUT no comprehensive/up-to-date analysis
- Good factual information on the implementation of VET mobility activities in Erasmus+ and predecessor programmes BUT incomplete evidence-base on VET mobility outside EU programmes
- Well-known but still persistent VET mobility-related challenges at organisation/system level

Ongoing EU-level developments of relevance to the study:

- In light of next MFF need to:



- gather and analyse quantitative and qualitative data about the provision, take-up and impact of VET mobility and the complementarity between all schemes.

Objectives of the study



To produce an impact study on VET mobility:

- to strengthen knowledge-base on existing VET mobility initiatives in the form of non-E+ funded schemes/programmes in 33 Erasmus+ programme countries (EU28, FY, IS, LI, NO, TR)
- to collate evidence on the impact of the schemes and programmes identified at the individual (learners, staff), organisation and system levels
- to analyse key findings and trends from the above and draw conclusions and recommendations to support EU-level policy development and implementation

Scope

Focus on organised VET mobility in form of programmes or schemes:

- funded outside E+ at national, regional, sectoral or EU (other than E+) level
- providing financial and organisational support for VET learners as well as VET staff spending a period abroad in an organised setting.

Definition to be operationalised taking as a basis:

- all VET sectors: initial VET (IVET) and continuing VET (CVET)
- different types of VET mobility: as part of/ upon completion of initial ET; staff mobility
- different forms of VET mobility: school-based/work-based
- different participants: IVET students/young graduates; apprentices; teaching and training staff; adult workforce in or out of employment; young NEETS

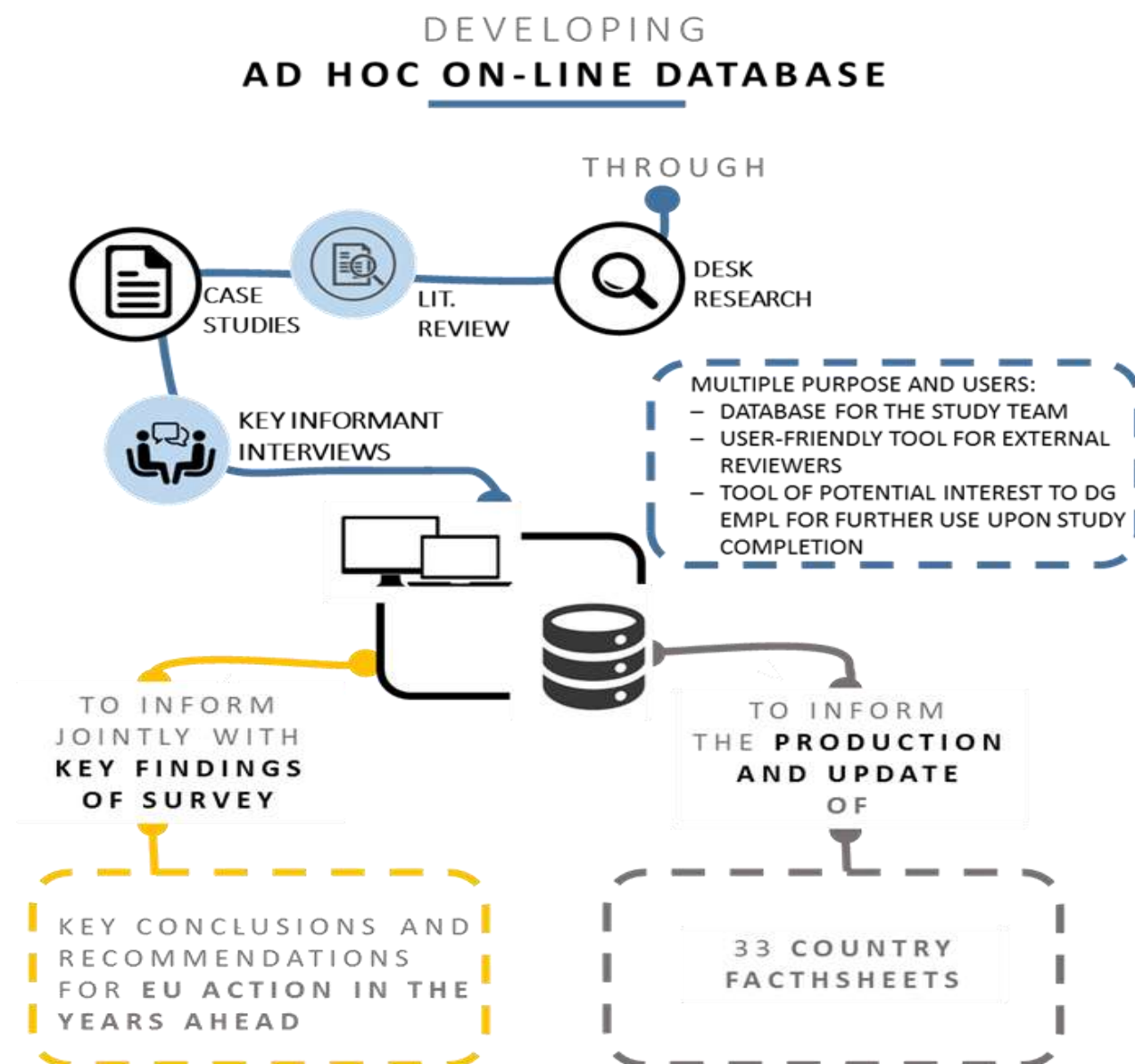
Overview of main methods

Source of evidence	Main aims	Indicative sample size
Desk/country review	Map VET mobility programmes/schemes in 33 countries, not funded under E+ Gain insights of existing evidence-based research on impacts of VET mobility Help refine analytical framework	NA
Key informant interviews (KIIs)	Perceived impact of the VET mobility schemes/programmes at system level Additional qualitative /contextual insights	Up to 50: - 10 EU level and 40 national level
Surveys	Background characteristics of VET mobility participants Impacts of VET mobility	> 2,400 per sub-target group
Case studies	Perception of impact at individual, organisation and system level Additional qualitative /contextual insights	10 case studies: - 5 public-led + 5 enterprise-led - Up to 87 interviews
Secondary analysis of DG EAC data	VET mobility participation patterns – e.g. Barriers to VET mobility; development of competences and skills; changes in attitudes	(depends on data access/availability) > 120,000 observations (learners) > 19,000 observations (staff)



Country review

- **Developing an ad hoc online database – will be used to:**
- gather key findings of the mapping task into one single tool structured against country factsheet template
- enable country researchers to work with a common automated tool.
- facilitate external review and QA processes
- automatically generate individual country factsheets



Country review

Mapping and gathering information on VET mobility schemes/programmes in the database

What (for)?

- Initial mapping to:
 - gain better overview of variety of existing schemes/programmes
 - refine the operational definition to use for the study and identify the programmes/schemes to retain and exclude; borderline cases
 - identify gaps in information to be addressed through surveys and/or case studies

How?

- Desk research
- Systematically mapping and storing relevant information on schemes identified into the online database

KIIs

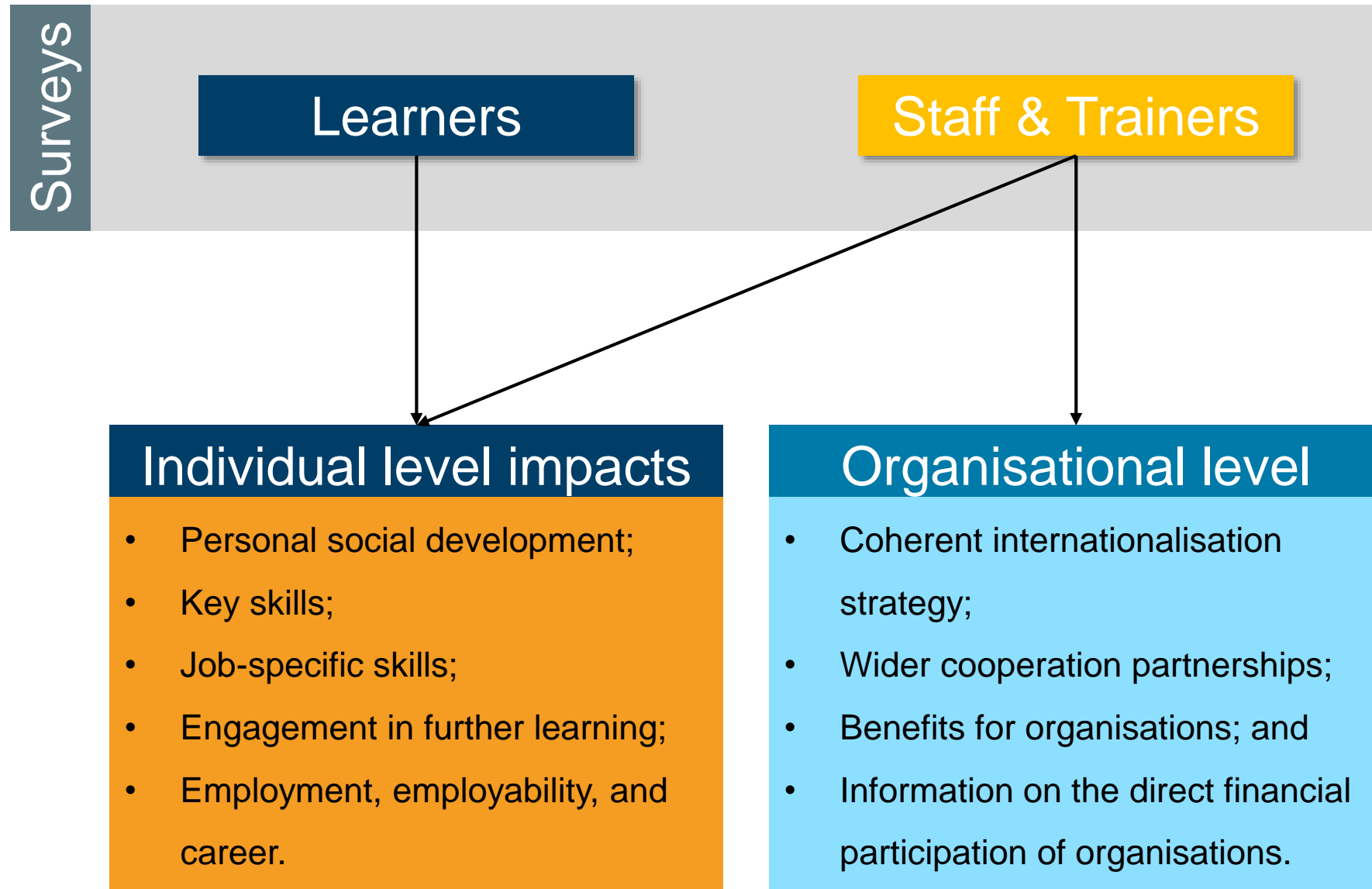
What?

- 50 KIIs (EU /national level)

Why?

- **to collate insights focusing on the perceived impact of the VET mobility schemes/programmes considered at system level plus additional insights as:**
 - Link to VET modernisation strategy or reform
 - Link to coherent VET internationalisation strategies
 - Link to employment policies
 - Link to increased collaboration among public authorities, social partners and other stakeholders:
 - Key strengths and obstacles of the main mobility schemes/programmes in interviewees' countries and recommendations for improvement;
 - Existing or potential links, synergies or overlaps between the schemes/programmes discussed and Erasmus+ VET mobility actions of a similar nature

Survey



Case studies

What?

- 10 case studies: 5 'public-led initiatives' + 5 enterprise-led initiatives'

Why?

- To provide a detailed illustration of the impacts of selected VET mobility schemes
- To offer insights on additional elements – e.g. critical success factors or obstacles; unintended effects
- (enterprise-led initiatives): to offer another interesting angle to the study

Selection process - criteria-based:

- **Public-led initiatives:**
 - Scale of the initiative
 - Sustainability/history of the initiative
 - Target groups
 - Type of funding
 - Type of and duration of the mobility actions
 - Specific features of the initiative
- **Enterprise-led initiatives :**
 - Scale of the initiative
 - Type of funding
 - Target groups / professional coverage
 - Specific features of the initiative

Timeframe

- **Study timeframe: January to November 2018**
- **Main project phases:**
 - Inception phase: mid-January to mid-March 2018
 - Data collection phase: early March to mid-July
 - Country review: early March to end April
 - KIIs: end of March to mid-May
 - Surveys: mid-February to mid-June
 - Case studies: end April to mid-July
 - Secondary analysis of DG EAC data: early April to early July (depending on data availability/access)
 - Analysis: end April to end October 2018



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