# German conference ELVET 2018
## Exchange and transfer of successful strategies to prevent early leaving from Vocational Education and Training (VET)

For at least ten years the exchange of successful strategies to prevent early leaving from Vocational Education and Training (VET) contributes to the mutual benefit of knowledge between the Hessian program of QuABB (Capacity building to students, companies and vocational schools involved in apprenticeship-training) and other projects in Germany. In 2016 we expanded the exchange to European Countries for the first time. QuABB has learnt a lot from the experiences of other projects and initiatives coming from Hesse, Germany and Europe.

QuABB has since been presented as a good example at various conferences in other European countries. This year, the knowledge transfer of new approaches from Europe to Hesse should be enabled and an exchange should be initiated with a broad group of participants consisting of experts, QuABB protagonists and representatives of other projects preventing early leaving from VET.

Prof. Mette Bunting from the University College of Southeast Norway presented findings from a long-term ethnographic study on different types of drop-outs. Dr. Irène Psifidou of the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (CEDEFOP) outlined the results of the Europe-wide study on early leaving from education and training as well as the web portal VET-toolkit for tackling early leaving. Prof. Francesca Salvà Mut from the University of the Balears Isles (Mallorca) reported on the situation in Spain and the success factors in the school system of their training centres.

The three English lectures were followed by a panel discussion with audience participation in which the experts stressed the importance of an offer adapted to regional needs. Social integration and the environment in which the apprentices live play a central role here. Further factors for the success of VET are sufficient resources for teachers, vocational schools and training support. The exchange of experts was further intensified in four thematic workshops and an exhibition of the present projects.

Hardy Adamczyk and Dr. Irène Psifidou discussed in the first workshop selected criteria from the reflection tool for policy makers of the VET-toolkit. In the second workshop Dr. Sabine Beck compared the six profiles of early leavers and learners at risk of early leaving from the VET-toolkit to the three types of dropout that were researched in the Norwegian study of Prof. Mette Bunting. Barbara Lampe from the ZWW of the University of Mainz conducted a workshop on the quality of counselling in Europe and the European Lifelong Guidance Policy Network (ELGPN). Prof. Peter Weber from the University of Applied Sciences of the Federal Employment Agency identified key indicators for the success of consulting with participants of a workshop based on the Keyway project.

For the around 100 participants the conference was a great opportunity to engage in a pan-European exchange and gain new insights for the evaluation, developement and improvement of their programs and the host project of the conference; QuABB in Hesse.

**QuABB** aims to avoid early leaving from vocational education and training. Some 57 qualified supervisors support trainees by coaching and mentoring them, cooperate with local partners, and

implement a joint early warning system. This programme is coordinated by the Institute for Vocational Education, Labour Market and Social Policy (INBAS) since 2009 and is funded until 2021 by the Hessian State government and the European Union (European Social Fund). The qualified supervision is realised by regional partners. read more www.quabb-hessen.de

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